

JPRS 79408

9 November 1981

Latin America Report

No. 2397



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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LATIN AMERICA REPORT

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FORMER AMBASSADOR TO U.S. SPECULATES ON CANCUN SUMMIT OUTCOME

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 17 Oct 81 p 9

[Article by Jorge A. Aja Espil: "New North-South Dialog in Mexico"]

[Text] Many conflicting expectations have arisen concerning the imminent summit meeting which will take place in the Mexican resort town of Cancun. On 22-23 October, the leaders of 22 nations (the Federal Republic of Germany, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Austria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, the Ivory Coast, China, the United States, the Philippines, France, Great Britain, Guyana, India, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Sweden, Tanzania, Venezuela and Yugoslavia) will discuss difficult socioeconomic issues on the highest political level, in the long-standing search for better and more effective international cooperation between the so-called industrialized or developed countries and the countries of the underdeveloped or developing world. This is what is commonly known in international parlance as a North-South dialog.

It is easy to be skeptical about the results that can be accrued at a summit conference which is simultaneously restricted and heavily attended, such as the one that will take place in Cancun; but the proverb that whoever does not hold dialog will not progress seems to vouch for the advantages of an international operative dimension.

North-South Dialog

The underdeveloped world accounts for approximately three quarters of the world population, including countries which are very different from one another, but which show common traits, such as lack of food, a high birthrate, minimal income, an energy shortage, backward social structures, etc.

Geographically, the vast majority of the underdeveloped countries are located in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and hence are distributed in both hemispheres. How, then, can we talk about North-South relations with reference to the developed world and the underdeveloped world?

At the beginning of the 1970 s, the abundance of oil in countries with little or no development, such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the Arab Emirates, Qatar, Libya, Iraq, Iran, Algeria, Nigeria, Indonesia and Venezuela, marked the start of great speculation in world trade. The prices of raw materials skyrocketed, and also caused another underdeveloped sector, consisting of the countries exporting tropical products, to achieve unheard of prosperity. There was every indication that we were reaching the end of a cycle in the old international economic order, and that the heretofore rich countries would have to begin their Way of the Cross.

Beginning in 1973, when the oil market was in a state of upheaval with the sudden takeoff in prices, the industrialized countries, particularly the European nations dependent upon imported oil, attempted to reconcile their economic policies with the increasing demands from the crude exporting countries. So, in February 1975, the European Community, which imports 81 percent of its required oil, concluded the Lome Accord, beginning a new phase of economic cooperation with its former colonies in Africa, the Pacific and the West Indies. Thereupon there began the so-called North-South dialog, transferring a geographical concept to the socioeconomic area (unlike the East-West dialog, concentrated on the politicomilitary area); the key idea of which is precisely that the industrialized countries and the underdeveloped or developing countries are dependent on one another. Neither Europe nor Japan can survive without raw materials, nor can the countries supplying primary products survive without the market and technology of the former.

The 'Brandt Report'

During 1977, with the 1973 oil crisis over, there appeared a marked tendency among the industrialized countries to reduce the assistance that was being channeled through the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, better known as the World Bank, to support the poor countries. At the time, Robert McNamara was starting his third term as president of that financial institution, and his reaction was to create a "Commission for International Development Problems" headed by Willy Brandt, former chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and Nobel Prize winner. We might add that, for the first time in history, this type of commission included representatives from both the developed world and the underdeveloped world.

The Brandt Commission Report, as it is commonly called, was released in December 1979, and published with the title "North-South: a Program for Survival." This study not only proposes immediate recommendations for dealing with the urgent problems in key areas such as energy, raw materials and financing needs, but also brings up the long-term problems the solution to which appears to lie in changes that would restructure the world economy.

The essential point in the "Brandt Report", following McNamara's inspiration, is the reform of the international monetary system, especially attaching value to and using the so-called Special Drawing Rights (SDRs). It is well known that as of 1970, for the purpose of increasing international liquidity, the International Monetary Fund put the Special Drawing Rights into effect, constituting reserve assets the unit value of which is now the average for a market basket in five currencies: the American dollar, the German mark, the French franc, the Japanese yen and the British pound sterling.

The "Brandt Report" stresses the relationship between the Monetary Fund's paper money and the financial assistance to the underdeveloped or developing countries, for which it eliminates many of the obstacles and restrictions limiting its use. In this regard, the "Brandt Report" is in agreement with the Monetary Fund and the Third World countries which want to convert the SDRs into international reserve currency.

To be sure, the international bureaucracy would have its reward as well: A new institution located halfway between the World Bank and the Monetary Fund, would

serve as a bank for the Third World, financing the trade among the underdeveloped or developing countries, and granting soft loans for domestic projects.

Global Negotiations

The aforementioned proposal contained in the "Brandt Report" is nothing new and, generally speaking, is the same one which the representatives of the developing countries combined in the so-called Group of 77 put forth on the occasion of the Fourth and Fifth UN Conferences on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Nairobi and Manila, respectively. Again, at the 11th Special Session of the UN General Assembly which took place in August-September 1980, an effort was made to progress in the search for new formulas. In order to reduce the differences, it was attempted to coordinate procedures which would give an impetus to the North-South dialog through "global negotiations" the purpose of which was "to reach concrete agreements that would contribute to the solution of the international economic problems within the context of world economic relations" (Res. 34/138 of the UN General Assembly).

The disagreement between the industrialized countries and the Group of 77 froze the global negotiations "ab-initio" [from the outset].

The Summit Meeting at Cancun

In March 1980, there was advanced the notion of a summit meeting limited, in principle, to 20 countries, which was adopted by the prime minister of Austria, Bruno Kreisky, and the president of Mexico, Jose Lopez Portillo. Since both statesmen were convinced that the North-South dialog had not progressed because of a lack of political backing on the highest level, they put forth the proposal with an intensity which puzzled more veteran diplomats.

At its beginnings, this plan was received with apprehension by the majority of European leaders, who chose to assume a wait-and-see attitude before declining to attend. However, Brandt himself and those adhering to the North-South dialog created an international atmosphere wherein any refusal to consider the commission's report appeared to the international community as a total lack of sensitivity toward the poverty of the countries with less or no development. Thus, the foreign ministries of the industrialized countries began to appear more inclined toward the convocation, doubtless so as not to become estranged from the Third World nations; while the ministries of economy remained unwilling to participate, fearing an unproductive confrontation.

Insofar as the United States was concerned, the Carter administration (at the height of an election campaign at the time, and not having very good relations with the host country) cited its opposing position, arguing that it would be necessary to await the results of the 11th Special Session of the UN, relating to the same issues.

In November 1980, in Vienna, the first preparatory meeting for Cancun took place, with 11 countries attending, including the two sponsors, Austria and Mexico. It was there that the selection was made of the 20 participating countries, allowing for an increase to 22, in the hope that both the United States and the Soviet Union would eventually decide to attend. By January of this year, there occurred the meeting of the then President-elect Reagan and President Lopez Portillo. It should

be recalled that the former had emphasized in his campaign the need to intensify the bonds of friendship with the neighbors, Mexico and Canada, even proposing the conclusion of an accord for North America. The cooling of relations that took place during the Carter administration was to be followed by rapprochement with the new Republican administration. That presidential embrace at the border resulted in Reagan's conditioned agreement to attend the summit meeting, which has now been proposed for October, instead of June, as originally planned.

The next step for the organizers of the international event was to obtain the presence of the Soviet leader, Leonid Brezhnev; and that is the reason for the travel of the Mexican foreign minister to Moscow, as well as for that of Willy Brandt himself. Nevertheless, the Soviet Union's decision is irrevocable: it will not be in attendance at Cancun.

Prediction on the Conference

What can result from a meeting of 22 heads of state and heads of government in the course of 48 hours?

At the time of the planning of the summit conference of industrialized countries in Ottawa, which convened in July of this year, the U.S. State Department favored greater backing for the underdeveloped countries through the North-South dialog. There immediately arose a strong opposition from the Treasury Department, fearful that the "global negotiations" demanded by the Third World would lead to a massive, inflationary issue of international currency; in other words, of the Special Drawing Rights (SDRs). A confidential document produced in that department made severe criticism of the policy of the World Bank, because of its uncontrollable tendency toward becoming a welfare organization for the Third World countries, instead of stimulating foreign investment and allowing the market economy to act.

On the occasion of the recent annual assembly of the World Bank and the Monetary fund, President Reagan put forth the United States' position at the imminent Cancun meeting, when he warned the representatives of the underdeveloped countries that, "unless the economies and finances of those countries are put in order, no aid will produce progress;" adding that, "It is necessary to put an end to the rhetoric that divides the North from the South."

The new American policy has its legal justification in the very policy of austerity and cuts in budgetary spending that Reagan is carrying out. But it also reflects a new ideological position of the Republican Party's right wing, which has unquestionably had favorable repercussions on the new World Bank president, A.W. Clausen, who until recently was director of the Bank of America.

One can also foresee the line to be adopted by eight of the countries that are members of the British Commonwealth of Nations, scheduled to attend Cancun. At the summit meeting of the Commonwealth, held in Melbourne, Australia, during the first week of October, Canada, Australia, Bangladesh, Guyana, India, Nigeria and Tanzania strongly supported "global negotiations" on food, energy and financing. Only Margaret Thatcher, who is being increasingly besieged by foes and supporters alike, agreed with Reagan's policy, noting that, "The solution to our problems does not lie in the redistribution of the existing wealth, which is insufficient, but rather

in the creation of new wealth." Upon Margaret Thatcher's return, Edward Heath, the former British conservative prime minister and coauthor of the "Brandt Report", met her heading a genuine rebellion within the party, nurtured by the differences with her regarding the forthcoming North-South dialog in Mexico.

As for the German "premier", Helmut Schmidt, threatened by the left wing of the Social Democratic Party, he nevertheless does not seem willing to make concessions to his fellow countryman and fellow party member, Willy Brandt. Hence the position assumed by his finance minister, Hans Matthoefer, in agreement with his American counterpart, Donald R. Reagan, at the last meeting of the Monetary Fund, to the effect that the financial agencies should impose stricter requirements in granting loans to developing countries.

As is obvious, the United States, Great Britain and the Federal Republic of Germany do not appear willing for the North-South dialog at Cancun to progress beyond a profusion of diplomatic courtesy for the host country.

2909

CSO: 3010/97

BRIEFS

ARGENTINE-BRAZILIAN EXPORT POLICIES--At a meeting of Argentine and Brazilian meat-packing plant owners to establish an agreed upon policy to stimulate the consumer markets for canned meat, the dissimilar pattern of exports from both countries, resulting from an internal treatment which is also different, was disclosed. During 1980, Argentina lost 35 percent of the volume of corned beef exported to the United States, when the figures are compared with those of 1978; while Brazil increased its exports to that market by 61 percent, in the case of the same years. Also between 1978 and 1980, on the United Kingdom market, whereas our country lost 40 percent of the volume exported, Brazil's exports declined only a little over 20 percent. These statistics were reported during the course of the meeting held last weekend in Sao Paulo by Argentine manufacturers and Brazilian producers of canned meat, at which the status of the world market was reviewed. The report emanating from the meeting states that whereas, in Brazil, the meat packing industry receives differential reimbursements of 15 percent of the FOB value of its exports and prefinancing credit backing of 40 percent of its production at an annual rate of 40 percent (with an internal inflation of about 80 percent), and the government is now preparing to award it half the price between 30 and 50 percent of the 260,000 tons estimated as the supply for its intervention, in Argentina the meat-packing sector has unsuccessfully demanded equivalent treatment from the national authorities. This request has been based not only on the status of the market in general and the aggressive competition from its Brazilian counterparts, but also on the considerable debt (estimated by industrial sources at approximately \$270 million) in which its companies find themselves, causing a financial burden that is "impossible to withstand." It is noteworthy that, in 1978, Argentina sold the United States 20,782 tons of corned beef, while Brazil sold a volume of 12,503 tons. In 1980, our country exported 13,498 tons to that market, as compared with 20,135 sold by Brazil. [Text] [Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 1 Oct 81 p 14] 2909

ARGENTINE CARS TO PERU--The commander-in-chief of the Army, Lt Gen Leopoldo Galtieri, will pay an official visit to Peru before the end of this year, only a few days after Foreign Minister Oscar Camilion also travels to that country, according to an announcement made by the Argentine ambassador to Lima, Luis Sanchez Moreno. Moreover, the diplomat claimed that the negotiations to allow Argentine business owners to make sales of railroad material, automobiles and equipment for factories to Peru, as well as to export some 1,000 cars to be used as taxicabs, and approximately 150 trucks from the Mercedes Benz firm, are "very well under way." Sanchez Moreno, who made statements upon arriving at the Ezeiza airport, announced that he had returned to the country in order to analyze with Foreign Minister Camilion the details of the forthcoming visit to Peru, among other topics. Although he explained that the date

of that trip has not yet been determined, he emphasized that it would most likely take place at the beginning or in the middle of next month. He also disclosed that Galtieri had arranged with high-ranking Peruvian Army officials, when he was in that country for a brief stop while enroute to his recent visit to the United States, to pay an official visit to Lima. Sanchez Moreno remarked: "He will probably take that trip at the end of November or in December." Furthermore, the ambassador announced that, on 26 October, the commanding general of the Peruvian Air Force would be arriving in Buenos Aires at the invitation of the Argentine Air Force; while, a few days thereafter, at the end of this month or early next month, the minister of energy and mines, Pablo Cuchinski, would arrive here for the purpose of holding meetings with authorities from the National Atomic Energy Commission. In that connection, he stressed that the plan for nuclear cooperation between the two countries is following "its timetable quite well." [Text] [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Oct 81 p 6] 2909

CENTRAL BANKS MEETING--The Nicaraguan and Salvadoran delegates to the meeting of economy ministers and presidents of Central American central banks which was held in San Jose, Costa Rica, admitted that their countries cannot pay their debts to the region. Oscar Melgar and Bernardo Chamorro, economy ministers of El Salvador and of Nicaragua respectively, blamed the situation on political and economic problems and other domestic problems. Jose Miguel Alfaro, who is vice president of Costa Rica and currently the acting president while President Carazo is in the Far East, said that so far this year commerce in the region has dropped 25 percent. In the meantime, an agreement for an alternative for a solution to the problem was reached at the meeting. The agreement specifies capitalizing the Central American economic stabilization fund and asking the Inter-American Development Bank for more aid. [Text] [PA180430 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2245 GMT 17 Oct 81]

HONDURAN-COSTA RICAN POSITION--Honduras and Costa Rica have said no to a fascist alliance. Honduras' defense secretary, Mario Flores, and Costa Rican Vice President Jose Miguel Alfaro have said they will take no part in the fascist idea of [Guatemalan president] Romeo Lucas Garcia and [Salvadoran Government junta president] Duarte on creating a regional army to crush the liberation movement of the Central American people and to destabilize the revolutionary process in Nicaragua. Commenting on this, the Honduran defense minister said: My government and the armed forces of Honduras maintain the policy of neutrality and respect for the right of self-determination of neighboring states. The Costa Rican vice president commented on the call from Guatemala's dictator for the isolation of Nicaragua, saying: It would be a mistake to isolate Nicaragua from the community of nations. Alfaro added: Everybody has the right to organize according to their own principles. The proposal of the dictatorships in Guatemala and in our own country for the formation of the northern triangle, which is the name that the fascist alliance has taken, has been rejected internationally since it is seen as a maneuver of U.S. imperialism to regionalize the war, thus putting world peace in danger. [Text] [PA171712 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 17 Oct 81]

USSR TOURISTS VISIT NICARAGUA--San Jose, 15 Oct (ACAN-EFE)--A group of Russian tourists is visiting Costa Rica, making effective an agreement signed between the government of Costa Rica and a USSR travel agency. The purpose of the agreement is to attract USSR tourists to Costa Rica and to propitiate a new source of foreign exchange. The visiting group, made up by 22 people, was met at the international airport by foreign ministry and tourist institute employees. The USSR tourists will also visit some cities located in the southern part of Nicaragua, official spokesmen disclosed. [Text] [PA160603 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0035 GMT 16 Oct 81]

SUGAR EXPORTING NATIONS MEET--Quito--The 15th meeting of the group of Latin American and Caribbean Sugar Exporting Countries, GEPLACEA, met in Quito Monday, with the participation of about 100 official delegates from around the hemisphere. During this 15th session, the organization will pay special attention to the international sugar market, the production and marketing of sugar, technological cooperation, matters pertaining to the International Sugar Agreement, statistics technology and administrative matters. [By Vicente Vega] [Excerpt] [PA192027 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Oct 81]

CSO: 3010/178

NATIONAL LEADERS COMMENT ON VIOLA'S PERFORMANCE TO DATE

Buenos Aires SOMOS in Spanish 9 Oct 81 pp 4-7

[Article: "Viola: Who Is He and What Does He Want?"]

[Text] Seven questions asked by SOMOS of leaders from all areas attempt to profile the president in the difficult current situation and upon the completion of his first 6 months in government.

1. Is he, in fact, a statist or a liberal? Why?
2. Some claim that he is "hemmed in" by the Military Junta; while others claim that he is to blame for the government's immobility. What do you think?
3. His silence, is it a virtue or a fault? Why?
4. It is said that he is a great "political schemer". Under the present circumstances, is that a virtue or a fault? Why?
5. It is said that he is a "populist general". Is that true or false? Why?
6. He is accused of not producing what is necessary, and his defenders claim that his style is "not spectacular". What do you think?
7. In view of the contradictory views expressed by ministers and advisers from his staff, many claim that he "has no consistent government plan." Is that true or false? Why?

Emilio Hardoy (leader of the National Center Party)

1. and 2. What both President Viola and the Military Junta, and what we might term the entire "national reorganization process" propose is to correct and adjust (reorganize, organize over again) the system inherited from Peronism; and this is precisely what has proven to be impossible, because we are witnessing its inevitable disintegration. The "moderation" of President Viola (Sigaut) is merely a repetition of the "gradualism" of President Videla (Martinez de Hoz). Both express the fundamental desire to leave everything as it was.
3. and 4. I do not share the view that General Viola is a ruler who practices silence, because he has voiced his opinions at length on several occasions. As for whether

or not he is a great "political schemer", I would point out that such a quality does not assume significance when what is needed are categorical decisions. For example, not to issue any more money, to eliminate the treasury deficit, to balance the economy, to close the state enterprises, to reduce public spending substantially, to eliminate the single trade union and the nationalized social projects.

5. What is obvious is the intention of General Viola's government not to annoy the Peronists and the Radicals. In that sense, his concern for not condemning Peron and what the latter represented may be judged as a gesture of "populism".

6. I have already mentioned the "moderation" that General Viola has proclaimed as a standard for his government. It may be agreed that his style is "not spectacular" because that style reflects the intention of not changing the existing conditions nor damaging the vested interests nor abolishing the political and social structures that have been inherited.

7. There is a consistent goal in the "national reorganization process": to maintain the essence of the Peronist regime. Both the action of President Videla and that of Viola have consistently aimed at attaining this goal, limiting themselves to getting rid of those who are "corrupt" and "subversive", without realizing that the system will inevitably produce them.

Eduardo Althabe (president of CARBAP [Confederation of Buenos Aires and the Pampa Rural Associations])

1. Any ruler who has had to manage in a government structure marked by statism for 30 years cannot help but seem like a statist.

2. The present economic crisis makes any government action slow.

3. There is no silence.

4. I don't like the term "political schemer". It does not apply to a president, but obviously he has more interest in politics than have other military presidents.

5. We would have to define the term "populist", but in any case he is a general of the nation, with all the responsibilities which that implies. I don't think that those who are currently unemployed can claim that he is a populist, and I should explain that he is not to blame for which is occurring in that connection at present.

6. There is no doubt that his style is not spectacular.

7. The views of his advisers or ministers are those of each individual, and they cannot coincide. In fact, they do not.

Raul Matera (neurosurgeon, Peronist leader)

1. It is my personal opinion, from his action, that we are witnessing a personage of marked pragmatism and political flexibility, but one who, in the economic realm, continues to maintain a liberal type economic leadership, reflecting a "gray cat" quality that is quite clearly evident.

2. We have often remarked that the Armed Forces government is paying a high price in its effort to prevent the "personalization" of power. For this purpose, it had to create a neoconstitutional system which, because of trying to maintain proper balance in the exercise of political power, has ended up becoming more deeply entrenched, owing to the lack of a solution for the major national problems, the crisis in confidence and the indifference of the citizenry. That high price consists of great difficulty in governing, a slowdown in the government's progress, and even an immobility which could become suicidal from a political standpoint.

3. I assume that the question refers to General Viola's brevity, because I do not consider him silent at all. His statements are numerous. This ostensible lack of loquacity is merely circumspection in his remarks considering the nation's serious problems.

4. I have heard that description of General Viola. I do not have sufficient personal experience to judge it. If it were accurate, he should be careful not to become "entangled in the packthreads."

5. Thus far, there is no evidence of solutions in the socioeconomic area; which is not conducive to popularity.

6. I gave my opinion in this regard in the second response to this list of questions.

7. There are, in fact, a great many contradictions in his ministerial cabinet, most particularly in his political adviser, General Harguindeguy, who shows an inconsistency between what the president says or attempts to do, and the personal views expressed by the former minister of interior. Therefore, the inconsistency is real.

Rafael Sarmiento (former judge, leader of the National Center Party)

1. He is not liberal. Because of professional deformation, he has ended up not understanding nor liking the political philosophical system of the liberal National Constitution of 1853.

2. The government is a single one, with a president and a Junta. There can be no president without a Military Junta, just as there can be no Military Junta without a president. Both the Military Junta and the president are "hemmed in."

3. Silence is a fault when one should speak clearly and on time. Beyond silence and statements: actions, when?

4. Moreno, Alberdi, Sarmiento, Avellaneda, Rivadavia and Carlos Pellegrini were great "political schemers". Under the present circumstances, "scheming" seems to consist of "enduring". To govern is not to endure. If a constitutional mission is not pursued (Law on Professional Associations, Electoral Law, Statute of the Political Parties), "scheming" and "unscheming" are of no use; they are not a virtue, but rather a fault.

5. General Viola is a man of honor, and he has denied being a "populist". It should not be thought that a "populist" is the same as a "demagog".

6. Neither the president nor the Military Junta has produced what is necessary. Therefore, Viola does not bear all the blame. The blame lies with the authoritarian system which has reached its end after parading about for over 40 years, from military control to majority political parties dissociated from the liberal system.

7. There is a consistent government plan and it is being implemented: both things. Sometimes it is preferable that it not exist beforehand, but rather emerge from events. If the process has a plan (and a consistent one as well) to reestablish the federal and republican government system (which is efficient as well), it is something that we certainly do not know. The facts indicate the contrary.

Armando Braun (businessman, chairman of the Inter-American Council of Commerce and Production [IACCP])

1. I do not believe that General Viola has liberal convictions. Furthermore, he is not a humanist, a philosopher or an expert on political science, but rather a man who has pursued a military career with great success and who is now confronting responsibilities and problems alien to his professional training.

2. The style of this government is the exclusive responsibility of General Viola.

3. I do not believe that such a silence exists. On the contrary, I think that, in general, those responsible for the process have abused words in an inverse relationship to the number of constructive deeds accomplished.

4. "Political scheming" is not, in itself, a virtue or a fault. It depends on the goals that one is attempting to achieve, and the means used.

5. I do not think that General Viola can be described as a populist president. On the contrary, I think that he does not have popularity, nor does he want to obtain it from the masses using ignoble means.

6. If the necessary things mentioned in the question have a liberal inspiration, it is most likely that they are not being produced. It doesn't matter whether or not the style is spectacular, simply because there are no convictions in that regard.

7. Differing opinions between the ministers and advisers are fitting when they do not share a set of clear, consistent ideas leading to a single, indisputable goal. If one judges the present government from these contradictions, it is possible to reach the conclusion that a consistent leadership is lacking.

Jorge L. Garcia Venturini (philosopher)

1. A statist. There are no signs of the contrary.

2. Every person is responsible for what he does, and even for what he does not do.

3. When it is necessary to be silent, silence is a virtue. When it is necessary to speak, it is a serious omission.

4. Every politician is a "schemer" by trade. What matters is that he scheme not only well, but for a good purpose.

5. It is a matter of taste.

6. To govern is not a spectacle. One must be cautious of "spectacular" governments.

7. There are too many opinions, too many spokesmen, too many advisers and too much bad government propaganda. The natural language of governments should be actions.

Maria Cristina Guzman (leader of FUFEP0 [Popular Federalist Forces])

1. The president himself has described himself as a moderate. He is, and has proven to be an enemy of extreme or manichaeian positions.

2. I don't believe either one or the other. Since he came into being, the president has been one of the great protagonists of the process which began in March 1976.

3. Silence is neither a virtue nor a fault. The moral judgment lies in the cause underlying the silence. Furthermore, I don't know what silence is being mentioned, because virtually every week the press reports interviews with the president.

4. When a man reaches the position in which General Viola is at present, and under the conditions wherein he reached it, he obviously has the virtue and the "special quality" of the ideal politician.

5. I don't know whether it is because of his unassuming nature or because of some of the president's popular tastes (such as soccer, and gathering with friends to eat at barbecues) that he has been described as a populist, a term which (as it is applied currently) contains a somewhat reprehensible, pejorative sense. What is essential is that the government is in each instance adopting the measure which the country requires, whether popular or not; never antipopular.

6. There is obviously a need for more dynamic and efficient action in the government. As for the "lack of a spectacular quality", I don't think that it is always a good thing to require that connotation.

7. It is public knowledge that the president will soon be explaining to the Military Junta the complete government plan; hence I infer that there is a plan. With regard to the contradictions among ministers and advisers, it is indispensable that they be corrected (immediately), because this does no good to the government's image or to the people's confidence.

Jesus Iglesias Rouco (reporter from LA PRENSA)

1. In the area of facts, nothing can be said; simply because there are no facts. The only thing that one observes are some insinuations.

2. There is no proof whatsoever that General Viola wears a "corset"; nor is there any that the members of the Military Junta wear one either. In fact, no one here wears a "corset", much less public spending. Only liberalism is hemmed in in Argentina.

3. What silence? No, the president's remarks do not wear a "corset" either.

4. It is possible; but, if so, he is certainly an "undoer of schemes," like Penelope who, as everyone knows, engaged in waiting.

5. Generals are, above all, generals. Then, the circumstances make the additions.

6. He has also been accused of producing what is unnecessary. I would say that he is accused of what is unnecessary and that, on the other hand, what is necessary is usually omitted.

7. There is no consistent plan. I don't believe that there is a plan. That is precisely what explains the contradictions.

Gerardo Ancarola (politician, secretary general of the Christian Democratic Union)

1. 2. and 3. The 6 months that have elapsed since General Viola took office do not afford sufficient leeway for depicting his profile as a ruler. In any event, this system of power (which appears to be heavily contingent on the Military Junta) was already known, especially by one who, like General Viola, was one of the inspirers and top-ranking executors of the process. The fact is that perhaps now more than during the previous administration, the true maneuvering area that it has is becoming apparent. And, in that regard, his silence may be interpreted equally as an individual style and as a means of differentiating himself from other high-ranking officials whose remarks are often light and at times sterile. Personally, I prefer presidents who are temperate, but effective.

6. and 7. In many areas, the present government is considered to be slow in its actions. In this regard, one would have to observe that President Viola introduced a Law on Ministries which, upon breaking up the former Ministry of Economy (many of the problems of the present time involve the economic realm), actually hampered the speed of the decision-making. But what has most fed the criticism is the fact that in the strictly political area (and this has had an effect on the process) the immobility that is evident is alarming.

And if the political, economic, social and cultural systems which led us to the dilemma from 1973 to 1976 are maintained, regardless of how much good will is shown, we shall succumb again to our cycles of crisis.

Juan Alemann (economist, former secretary of finance)

1. From an ideological standpoint he is undefined, but he tends more toward liberalism. In essence, it is the ideology of the average Argentine.

2. In Argentina, the position of the president of the nation is so important that, even with a Military Junta, it determines the style of a government.

3. It is a fault. The president, who is the "government's voice" to the entire country, should express ideas which determine his action and give an impetus to deeds. The president's silence tends to put the government on the defensive, with a loss of political power.

4. Every president should have a certain political skill. But when the political action is concentrated on contacts with individuals and loyalties, real in some

instances and based on expediency in others, and not on strong ideas and dynamics that are visible in actions and results, one ends up subtly transferring power to politicians and union leaders. Since the latter have little power of their own, there is the risk that they may become dominated by the Marxist left, which has a particular ability to dominate organizations that are outwardly large but weak in their real internal structure. Note the multiparty entity.

5. That is not a correct definition. He is not attempting to obtain the people's favor with demagogy, like Peron. But he is attempting to interpret the different social groups, with a tendency toward being overly permissive.

6. There is no doubt that his style is quite the opposite of spectacular. But that has nothing to do with a certain slowness in decision-making and insufficient capacity for conveying a political notion of government.

7. There is a basic ideology in the process which is still in effect. What one notes is a certain amount of vacillation and contradiction in the implementation of this phase, which is objectively difficult. At the same time, the government's structure itself conveys an idea of inconsistency and lack of direction.

Fernando de la Rúa (leader of the unionist sector of UCR [Radical Civic Union])

In all sincerity, I refuse to discuss the issue following questions which, in my opinion, do not deal with the fundamental matter. What is important here are not the possible personal descriptions of the president, but rather the serious disappointments at present because of the mistakes that have been made, and the urgent need to return to the Constitution. The deepseated nature of the crisis leaves no room for options such as those proposed, which lack interest in a national emergency such as this, and a system of power to which presidential leadership is alien. Peace, the supreme asset, has been restored. The only necessity is to return to the Constitution: Its design and its ideology are what must be implemented.

Bernardo Neustadt (journalist)

1. Viola is actually a gradualist, and as pragmatic as anyone. He is a liberal by conviction and a realist by nature. He would do nothing to aggrandize the state. But what can he do to diminish it? His soul is liberal.

2. A general recently whispered in my ear: "This is the first military government that has a parliament against it: the CAL [Legislative Advisory Commission]." Why do I start off with an anecdote? Because the "hemming in" goes back and forth; rather than immobility, there is an exasperating slowness. It also happened to Videla and Martínez de Hoz. They chose a military method for governing a civilian society.

3. What silence are they talking about? The one that he kept before assuming power? Viola is not a silent type; he is a good listener, but he also voices his thoughts. Furthermore, what Viola thought about the Martínez de Hoz program was known to his close associates and to half of Buenos Aires. He never agreed with it. And what Viola wants, to proceed toward a republican, democratic society, is no secret.

4. With the process where it stands, experiencing its disappointments more than its undeniable successes, it is good to have a president with a political scent, one capable of observing rumors and taking the temperature on the street, not living within four walls in solitude. The time of "what I do" has gone, and we are in the time of "what we do." "All or no one" should be the slogan. Viola removed the "do not disturb" sign that the process had hung up.

5. That is a label which they attached to him once so that he would not be president. It might be so, but he has not finished removing it.

6. The system is slow, and the president "chews" the decisions a great deal. He does not like being called hasty. It is true: he has an allergy toward what is spectacular.

7. Military presidents, as a rule, are the object and not the subject of the economic instrumentation. They indicate where they want to go ("to revive the productive apparatus" in the case of Viola), and wait for their operators to accomplish it. In the 'meanwhile' they have as much obscurity and uncertainty as you and I do.

2909

CSO: 3010/119

VIOLA'S RECENT PRESS STATEMENTS REFLECT COHERENT POSITION

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 Oct 81 p 16

[Article: "Three Statements From President Viola. Is Peronism Being Democratized?"]

[Text] The chief executive, Lt General Viola, has just made statements to three foreign press organs in which, it is assumed, he has summarized the most current view of the process toward the various aspects of the Argentine situation. Both the complete text of the interview that he gave the Mexican magazine VISION, and the accounts of the interviews which Viola held with correspondents from the Brazilian newspaper, O GLOBO, and the Spanish paper YA, were disseminated by the Secretariat of Public Information of the Presidency. With the questions aimed at more or less the same topics, the head of the Casa Rosada gave in his replies a coherent picture, possibly aided by the very short time that elapsed between the three articles, published here on 5 and 7 October. It would be difficult for any government to contradict itself overtly from one day to the next, and when the questions coincided, President Viola had an opportunity to state the same basic concepts to the three reporters. For example, the one to the effect that hastily calling for elections "is by no means a guarantee that the strong, stable democracy to which we aspire will be able to operate" (O GLOBO); and, therefore, insofar as normalizing the nation's institutional life is concerned, "I am not willing to hasten any timetable of that type if my convictions indicate to me that it is not the proper time to do so" (YA).

To VISION and YA, he also denied that the current economic policy entails changes in the system applied under the former presidency, because the new measures "presuppose the continuity of an economic philosophy which was explained in a timely manner by the Armed Forces in 1976" (YA). In these respects, President Viola's statements unquestionably do not differ much from those which any other high-ranking representative of the process could have made.

Wedge Between Civilians and Military

However, from one interview to the other, there was what we might term a certain implicit coincidence in condemning the civilians and exalting the military, through views which in those instances were perhaps more personal. Lt General Viola told VISION that, if the political parties admit their past "mistakes" they will be able to teach the younger generations how they should act. He said: "They will be responsible for describing to the youth how, at a given time, international subversion

threatened the very existence of the nation, at the same time uncovering certain failings in our democracy, and what their role was during that period." For lack of greater accuracy, we assume that this comment about "their role" refers to that of the parties or that of democracy, or that of the latter's failings. In any of the three instances, it is impossible to forget that it was not the parties, nor democracy, with all its failings, which was in power during the years in which the subversion was hatched and broke out. It was some of the military who occupied the Casa Rosada during those very years, or those who caused all kinds of difficulties for the civilian authority, that culminated in June 1966, with the outbreak of the "Argentine Revolution", the preeminent events of which were, after all, the assassination of Aramburu and the return of Peron. There is no reason to doubt that the "politicians" will, in fact, pass on that lesson left by the high military circles to the youth.

Strange Details

On the other hand, when talking to O GLOBO about the Beagle issue and its prompt, although still hypothetical solution, the president noted that, in this way, Argentina and Chile "will begin an era of cooperation and friendship that will be an example to all America."

These notions might also have been underwritten by another high-ranking military commander. But Lt General Viola considered it pertinent to add: "Notice a strange detail: it will be two military governments which will have made this contribution to the rise of a new attitude attaching value to peaceful solutions again in international relations."

Another "strange" detail (added by the reader of the official account of the statements himself) is the following: Argentina and Chile were never so close to the brink of fratricidal madness as under their respective military governments. Without going into considerations about the distribution of blame between the military and civilians for having arrived at the present situation after decades, it is obvious now that the latter reached its extreme state in recent years, during which the arms race between the two countries has been accelerated, with an inevitable decline in resources urgently needed for other purposes.

This will be another of the lessons that the "politicians" will leave to the coming generations.

Reorganization of Peronism.

Regarding the future margin for action of the Justicialist movement, Lt General Viola said that it will depend on the latter's adjustment to the democratic and republic groundrules (O GLOBO). The same view was expressed a few days ago by the Cordoban minister of government, Mr Uanini, who maintained that Peronism must "gear its operation to that of a political party" and give up its "self-proclaimed status as a movement;" and earlier, former Senator Italo Luder had proclaimed the need for democratizing Peronism.

Generally speaking, one assumes that this involves forgetting the finger-pointing leadership and giving the rank and file an actual share in the major party decisions.

This, of course, brings up directly both the principle of verticality and the leadership exercised by Mrs Maria Estela Martinez de Peron, whom secretary Bittel reaffirmed less than a month ago, claiming that, "To the majority of Peronists, she is still the leader of the movement and of the party." However, apart from any commitments that she may already have made to Admiral Massera, is she herself interested in returning? At the request of one of her defenders, Federal Judge Marquardt has just extended the permission for "Isabel" to remain abroad until 9 January 1982.

In any event, the restructuring of the Justicialist movement does not depend at present on the internal movement of wills, but rather on the Casa Rosada's issuance of the statute on the parties. Until such time, not only that one, but any other sector of opinion, will not know what to be guided by.

2909

CSO: 3010/95

MULTIPARTY FORMS COMMISSIONS TO DEVISE POLITICAL PROPOSAL

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 13 Oct 81 p 12

[Text] Last night, the multiparty officially set up the commissions which will begin this very week the consultation of the various sectors of national activity, and which will be required to devise a proposal to be submitted to the country within a period of time not to exceed 40 days.

The groups will have advisers to be proposed by each party, and they will be required to come up with decisions which will be submitted to the permanent secretariat, whose political board was also established yesterday.

With the exception of the international one, the commissions will start working today.

According to disclosures made by sources close to the Radical national committee, its head, Dr Carlos Contin, invited Dr Cesar Garcia Puente to join the commission that deals with social matters; but the latter did not accept.

The permanent political board is comprised of Juan Carlos Pugliese, Rodolfo Garcia Leyenda and Luis Leon, of UCR [Radical Civic Union]; Nestor Carrasco, Torcuato Fino and Herminio Iglesias, of PJ [Justicialist Party]; Americo Garcia, Marcos Merchensky and Carlos Zaffore, of MID [Integration and Development Movement]; Juan C. Manes, Marcelo Arbolaza and Raul Rabanaque Caballero, from PI [Intransigent Party]; and Martin Dip, Carlos Auyero and Hugo Conza, representing the Christian Democrats.

The Commissions

The commissions which will hold the consultations with the various sectors of national activity were made up as follows:

Institutional policy: Carlos Perett, Raul Alfonsin and Eduardo Angeloz, representing UCR; Torcuato Fino, Herminio Iglesias and Ruben Sarboli, representing the Justicialists; Americo Garcia, Marcos Merchensky and Carlos Zaffore, representing MID; Juan Carlos Manes, Rafael Marino and Marcelo Arbolaza, representing the Intransigent party; and Salvador Busacca, Augusto Comte and Arturo Ponzatti, representing the Christian Democrats. It will operate at Peronist headquarters.

The economic commission will carry out its activities on the MID's premises, and consists of Antonio Troccoli (UCR), Bernardo Montenegro (PJ), Carlos Zaffore (MID), Miguel Monserrat (PI) and Martin Dip (DC).

The culture and education commission consists of: Fernando de la Rúa (UCR), Fino (PJ), Antonio Salonia (MID), Mariano Lorences (PI) and Carlos Auyero (DC). It will operate on the Christian Democratic premises.

The social commission is comprised of: Juan Trilla (Radical), Sarboli (PJ), Garcia (MID), Raul Rabanaque Caballero (PI) and Eduardo Traboulsi (DC). It will engage in its activities at PI central headquarters.

The international commission is made up of: Ricardo Colombo (UCR), Nestor Carrasco (PJ), Merchensky (MID), Fayis Sago (PI) and Hugo Conza (DC). It will operate on the premises of the Radical National Committee.

2909

CSO: 3010/119

LAMI DOZO VIEWED GROWING IN STATURE AS GRAFFIGNA'S SUCCESSOR

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 11 Oct 81 p 8

[Article: "The Graffigna Succession"]

[Excerpt] This weekend, Brig Maj Basilio Lami Dozo appeared to be establishing himself as a leading candidate to succeed the commander-in-chief of the Air Force, and hence the next member of the Military Junta. Only a month ago, Admiral Anaya occupied the position left by Admiral Lambruschini in the corps that has been making the basic decisions of the state since 1976.

Most political observers believe that they perceive a tacit message in the decision made by Brig Gen Graffigna, the nation's highest ranking aviation authority, to lend an extraordinary display to the air attack and defense maneuvers held this week under Lami Dozo's direct leadership. Completely reliable Air Force sources proved to be very cautious in this regard when questioned by LA NACION. In fact, they stated that, at the first meeting of brigadiers in March, it had been decided to give the order to undertake those maneuvers and, as a result, the latter should not be connected with the course of action being followed by Graffigna to fill his own vacant slot. On the other hand, however, those sources let it be known that they considered the observers to be on the right track concerning the likely name of the future commander-in-chief.

Graffigna is the one who must decide in an entirely personal manner on the appointment of the superior officer who will replace him by 25 January 1982, at the latest. It is understood that he will not, like his predecessor, Brig General Agosti, wait until January to make an official decision. The regulations in effect stipulate that the members of the Military Junta will serve as such for a term not to exceed 3 years. In the case of Graffigna, that term expires on 25 January.

A War Game

Meanwhile, there has not been a single explicit reference thus far from Graffigna to the direction in which his decision will be aimed. As is only natural, the commanders-in-chief always attempt to decide such critical matters with the utmost secrecy, a careful sense of timeliness and special deference to all the individuals who might in one way or another feel involved in the direction of their vote. Without going any further, surely no one could at this point obtain a comment from Lt General Galtieri about who his chief of staff will be next January, or who the commander of

the First Corps will be; because both matters will carry a considerable amount of significance in relation to his succession, which will be opened up at the end of 1982.

But, clues are clues. In spite of everything, it has been very telling to political observers that, close to the time when Graffigna must make a decision, there has occurred an event which enabled Brigadier Lami Dozo to stand out as commander of Air Operations; that is, in the aeronautical war games with a magnitude unprecedented for many years (and in a certain sense, unique), which were held this week under the title Blason I.

This is how the military stature of that Santiago native, whose abilities, subjected to the greatest public testing in recent years, had been of a political nature, came into prominence. In fact, Lami Dozo served for several years as secretary general, in other words, political secretary, of the Air Force. In the comparison of the personages who have held such positions in the Army, Navy and Air Force, he has been given particular consideration by those who follow the Argentine military scene attentively. He is regarded as a man with moderate ideas, equipped to deal with difficult political negotiations, interested in the modernization of the state and sincerely bound to the disputable notion that the Armed Forces in March 1976 could not have decided upon a more appropriate institutional system for the path they were about to traverse. We are still on that path.

2909

CSO: 3010/95

LABOR PUSH WITHIN PERONIST PARTY RALLIES FORCES BEHIND BITTEL

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 16 Oct 81 p 20

[Text] The national government's refusal of the request submitted by the Justicialist Party to celebrate another anniversary of 17 October 1945 with a public ceremony attested once again to the lack of intelligence that exists among the members of the party's national council.

While secretary Deolindo Bittel declared in Resistencia that the Justicialist Party would abide by the government's decision, which in his view is mistaken, to avoid in this way the arrest of the members, the trade union council members backed the resolution of the CGT [General Labor Confederation] and the 62 Organizations to summon the citizenry to gather in front of the former's headquarters for the ceremony that was to be held today, the only speaker at which will be Saul Ubaldini.

Although the confrontation among the members of the trade union branch who comprise the council with the first vice-president has been under way since a certain amount of flexibility occurred in the political ban, there was evidence of a hardening on the part of the trade unionists after the reinstatement of the 62 Organizations.

Apart from the disputes that might be termed "domestic" there had already been a serious discrepancy with respect to the invitation of the trade union sectors into the multiparty. On that occasion, and after secretary Bittel agreed with the heads of the other four forces that the convocation should be made without exclusions, the trade union council members insisted on their proposal of exclusive status for the CGT; which caused a brief delay in the progress of the multiparty. Before that reconsideration, the trade unionists questioned the action taken by the first vice-president at an agitated council meeting.

As was commented in party circles, the trade unionists' ambition to gain space within the party caused many leaders of the political branch to back Bittel, despite the differences separating them from him, as a means of preventing "the preeminence of the trade union branch."

2909

CSO: 3010/119

CARBAP CONCERNED OVER COUNTRY'S POSITION BEFORE GATT

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 10 Oct 81 p 8

[Text] Developments in international economic relations and the course that has been chosen for the country's economic liberalization program are sources of constant concern for all productive sectors of the country, even those that consider the latter process irreversible.

Last Monday a note sent by the Confederation of Buenos Aires and the Pampa Rural Associations (CARBAP) to Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Jorge Aguado was made public. The note requested the minister's intervention to clarify the nation's position on the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT). This request was prompted by the announcement by Minister of Industry and Mining Livio G. Kuhl on 2 September concerning the decision by the national government to postpone until 1 January 1986 the fulfillment of the commitments stemming from the adoption of the protocol of Article VII of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs, an agreement entered into with that international organization.

The note, signed by the president and secretary of the rural organization, Eduardo Althabe and Alberto Paronetto, respectively, points out that they would like a clarification "in order to maintain, if necessary, a position consistent with the national interest." It refers to the problems that could result from the postponement in terms of "placing our agricultural surpluses on foreign markets."

The rural officials' fears, shared by other businessmen of the sector (who voiced the same concern to authorities in a less public manner), are based on the possible erosion of the country's position that attitude could cause if the country ever decided to complain to GATT about the protectionist practices of other signatory nations.

They make specific reference to the European Common Market, which on the one hand has prevented meat from being sold in the Community through a particular tariff policy, and on the other hand is invading other markets with subsidized sales. They also point out that not fulfilling the contracted commitments is "not very serious."

Minimum Prices

From the industrial standpoint, on the other hand, the decision is essential for setting the official CIF minimum import prices. Without trying to eliminate

foreign competition, industrialists feel nevertheless that the opportunity to put the domestic market in order should not be passed up. They interpret the measure as an ideal mechanism for preventing the "floating international supply" from flooding unhindered into the market and wreaking havoc on national production.

Given that the decision was made last July and was communicated to the director general of GATT through our permanent representative to the international agencies headquartered in Geneva in early August, the rural producers' reaction may seem tardy. But their slow response can be explained by the secrecy with which this case was handled. Indeed, even some foreign trade officials admit that they did not find out about the presentation until after it was channeled through the Foreign Ministry.

This manner of handling such an important matter is not unheard of, however. Industrial leaders claim that they learned of the extent of Argentina's participation in GATT only when they requested that former Minister Oxenford set the above-mentioned index prices. Then it became impossible to carry out the project because of the commitment made by the previous economic administration in the last quarter of 1980.

They also feel that this step is not as significant as other groups claim.

"A delay," they assert, "is not an annulment. This is simply a question of utilizing a period set forth in the additional protocol of the General Agreement so that developing countries can adjust their administrative structures to the international standards they are agreeing to observe."

Nor do they agree that this implies a risk for Argentina's position in future relations with the organization. They explain that in this case a legal provision was used, which is much more acceptable than resorting to the mechanisms that other nations use to make a mockery of the principles they promised to adhere to.

Amid the comments sparked by the government's decision, it might be interesting for some to know that this is not the first time the country has requested this kind of delay. In principle, the agreement was to become effective on 31 December of this year, but the need to accommodate customs regulations to world trade practices led to a request for a new date for the system's full implementation. That was set at 31 March 1982.

This new postponement will provide sufficient time to establish the necessary mechanisms, including the reference prices demanded by the industrial sector. These prices will lose all value when the agreement takes effect, that is, in 4 years. This does not seem like too long a period when viewed from a position of relative stability. However, during the same period the systems of internal production will also have to be adjusted if we are to prevent similar situations from occurring at the end of that time.

8926
CSO: 3010/83

UIA REFUTES ADEBA REPORT ON INDUSTRIAL SECTOR DEBT

Buenos Aires CONVICCION in Spanish 4 Oct 81 p 13

[Passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] The Argentine Industrial Union (UIA) has expressed its opinion on the paper put out by the Association of Argentine Banks (ADEBA) on the refinancing of business debts, called "Analysis of the Indebtedness of Some Industries and the Construction Sector."

In its comments, divided into four points, the following ideas are put forth: In the opinion of the UIA, the ADEBA report /basically considered the businesses that suffered the least decapitalization impact; if the sectors were separated, certain manufacturing industries would turn out to have a much larger debt than acknowledged by ADEBA; the situation would also appear more serious if the reference point were June 1977, when interest rates began to rise as a result of the financial reform./

Here is the complete text of the UIA's opinion on the ADEBA report:

1. /The report is based on December 1978, a period when industrial firms were already heavily in debt/ as a result of the high interest rates that predominated after the financial reform of June 1977. If the base period were the latter month instead, the level of indebtedness would certainly be less, and thus a comparison with December 1980 and March 1981 would reveal /an increase in business indebtedness/ much greater than the already significant average mentioned by the ADEBA report.

2. The value of the net book assets /does not reflect the loss in market value of the assets acquired before the date when the interest rate rose sharply (June 1977)/ since it is not recorded in the accounting which indexes the purchase price according to the wholesale price indices. This loss stems from the market's anticipation of the real interest rate of the future and the future profit margins of businesses, which is reflected on the books only when the firm liquidates its assets. This is why industrialists who are trying to sell their factories or transfer all or part of their stock portfolios /cannot find buyers at the prices shown on their books, but must sell at ridiculously low prices./ The result is a /clear loss of net assets/ which, if taken into consideration in the financial liability-net asset quotient in the report in question, /would raise the variation in the level of indebtedness./

3. The survey points out that the firms analyzed would account for 45 percent of the industrial sector's debt in national currency with the financial system, while on the other hand the firms analyzed plus the construction firms would account for 69 percent of the entire private sector's debt in foreign currency. Although it is difficult to make an exact comparison, these percentages would indicate that the 'firms analyzed by the survey were the ones that had the most access to loans in foreign currency./ It is obvious that those which had such access during the period included in the survey have had a cheap source of financing. This leads to the conclusion that the /companies analyzed are precisely those that suffered the least from decapitalization/ because of the high real interest rates paid by those with debts in national currency.

4. By way of summary, it can be commented in general that the resulting survey reflects /a situation of serious decapitalization even in the firms surveyed, and even in any other country of the world./ Thus, it can be concluded that these firms suffered the least deterioration of their net assets. It is also very clear that the problem lies, precisely, in /the remaining businesses./ Even without these observations it is important to undertake a separate analysis of the ADEBA report, as it suggests itself. Thus, without a doubt, /some industrial sectors would end up with a very high level of indebtedness,/ regardless of the growth of the financial liabilities of the rest. All this indicates and effectively demonstrates /the deterioration of industry,/ in which the excessively high cost of credit has affected the yield of productive assets and /explains the critical situation the nation's economy is undergoing./

8926

CSO: 3010/83

GALLINO ANNOUNCES HOUSING PROJECT TO ERADICATE SLUMS

Buenos Aires CONVICCION in Spanish 1 Oct 81 p 10

[Article: "Gallino Has Announced a Plan for 100,000 Dwellings"]

[Text] Yesterday, the governor of Buenos Aires, Gen Oscar Bartolome Gallino, said that a housing plan for 100,000 dwellings would be carried out in the province, adding: "This will make it possible to offer the slum dwellers an alternative for living in more comfortable, more wholesome and legally more secure housing."

He made this statement during the ceremony for the agreement to renovate schools and revamp health programs in slum areas, signed at the General Sarmiento superintendent's headquarters.

He added that, during the first week in December of this year, "the socioeconomic census ordered by the government of Buenos Aires Province will be taken in the sections of Greater Buenos Aires, Greater La Plata, Mar del Plata, San Nicolas and Bahia Blanca."

He then remarked that this census "also represents a realistic, decisive attitude on the part of the authorities of the province and the municipalities involved, who have agreed to cope with the reality, however alarming it may be, so as to engage in battle planning on firm, secure ground."

He explained: "Since the completion of these 100,000 dwellings will take a moderate amount of time, we shall concurrently attempt to improve some aspects of the slums, basically involving health conditions."

He subsequently added that, more than any other Argentine federal state, "Buenos Aires Province has suffered the consequences of an industrialization process which at times has taken place in a disorderly and improvised manner. Among many other effects, some positive and others negative, this process brought about the advent of slums, the persistence of which has been established owing to a deficit in construction which is by now a chronic phenomenon."

He added that the government cannot prevent the establishment of slums, because it has no alternatives. "When we can tell the residents thereof that there is this possibility, then we can indeed insist that they move to the new housing groups and leave them."

Upon being asked about the status of the negotiations for certain Arab companies to take charge of various priority jobs that the province requires, he declared: "They took place quite recently, and the negotiations on the international level have been very slow. " He concluded by saying: "I expect to have some news in the near future."

The minister of government of Buenos Aires Province, Guillermo Fernandez Gil, for his part, upon being asked about future political dialogs, said: "We intend to hold them with all the parties recognized by the Electoral Court, and within a very few days we shall announce the organizational chart prepared by the governor for October."

He added that, despite this, talks have already been held with the different political groups. "We have always done this, since we have been in the government. We have held an informal dialog, but a dialog after all."

In response to another query, he said that, in his seventh month of administration in Buenos Aires Province, he views the situation in that state "with enormous optimism," noting that, "The ceremony that we have held today (meaning yesterday) represents a highly important fact: the inexorable intention of Governor Gallino to carry ahead what he promised upon assuming office."

In commenting on the superintendents of the province who will soon be replaced because they have had over 6 years' service, he said, "There are 39 who must submit their resignations before March," but that no selection had been made yet in this regard.

He explained that the qualifications for the selection of the new communal heads are based on "ability, suitability, a great desire to hold dialog with the community and, if we can add the youth factor, all the better;" adding, however, that "this is not an indispensable condition."

The agreement for the renovation of schools and revamping of health programs in the slums was signed by Gen Oscar Gallino; the minister of public health, Dr Julio Nardelli; and the undersecretary of social action, Col Rodolfo Elizagaray.

2909

CSO: 3010/95

'CLARIN' SURVEYS COLLAPSE OF AUTO INDUSTRY

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 7 Oct 81 p 16

[Text] The automotive industry is experiencing a total debacle as a result of domestic market restrictions and the loss of the foreign market. Inevitably, the entire community is suffering the consequences of this crisis. Large numbers of workers have lost their jobs or are seeing their income plummet, while the sector's suppliers are suffering because of reduced demand.

This scene is nothing new in today's Argentina, of course; the full impact of the anti-industrialist program implemented as of March 1976 is still being felt. However, the impact on the auto industry has been particularly bad because of the multiplier effect, which is now operating in reverse due to the number of jobs that depend on this sector and the important subsectors that have grown up around it. In many areas, automotive plants are vital for the survival of the communities that have been established there, and have a drastic effect on the social thermometer.

The decline of this industry became obvious during the second quarter of 1980, when monthly sales were not enough to cover the average values of earlier years. The slump became even more abrupt early this year, when production levels dropped month after month: September sales were 70 percent less than those of the same month last year. Inventories swelled to 40,000 units. As a consequence, the industry is now working with 60 percent of its capacity idled.

Three fundamental variables have played a role in this process. On the one hand, the population's income has dropped, thereby eroding buying power. This led not only to a fall in sales but also a reordering of those sales; thus, the share of small cars was cut severely. In this manner, small cars went from a share of 20 percent of the market on the average between 1959 and 1980, to one of 2.5 percent during the first 8 months of this year.

The stimulation of imports through the devaluation also played a key role here, as it did in the rest of the economy. Imported cars captured 30 percent of the local market during the short time since the economy was opened up. The Japanese manufacturers must be very pleased with this development, given that the other markets of the world have erected barriers to protect local products. Of course, they are also suffering from some of the effects of the law, and inventories of foreign units have grown to 20,000. There have also been problems with the liquidation of importers' debts.

Exports, which used to hold a significant position in the sales structure, have practically disappeared because of the exchange rate deterrent. Now factories are trying to regain their markets, supported by the updating of the exchange rate, but it is well known that to retake a lost market requires considerable effort and time. Exports do not appear to be a solution to the problems, which demand immediate solutions in view of their consequences.

The magnitude of these figures makes any comment unnecessary. The numbers reflect an ongoing process of destruction in one of the local economy's key industries. This does not keep the competent authorities from waxing optimistic about the configuration of the productive structure in the present and immediate future, however. The market has already been abandoned by two large firms, and no one discounts the possibility that this exodus may continue, thus creating a further drain on capital and sources of employment. Another company has just revealed that its investments will be conditioned on an improved domestic market and better export potential.

For now, the immediate future does not appear to hold any improvements in store; businesses have scheduled new cut-backs in activity, and consequently there will be work suspensions of several weeks, along with social assistance agreements and lay-offs.

This is another alarming facet of the situation. The remodeling--or rather the reduction--of the industry proposed by the economic leaders will result in higher unemployment. While that prospect does not alarm the minister of economics, treasury and finance (he even considers it a positive development), it is undoubtedly a critical fact.

No community can enjoy stability and progress if large contingents of workers are out of work or do not earn enough to support themselves. From the economic standpoint, this situation does not attract productive investments, which are drawn to places where activity and growth are a likely possibility.

In short, we are taking steps backward in national life, creating situations that until a few years ago would have been considered offensive or inadmissible, in view of our potential for development. Furthermore, these situations are a time bomb in many parts of the country.

8926
CSO: 3010/83

BRIEFS

NATIONAL DEBT--The national debt of the Bahamas up to the second quarter of this year is \$280.1 million, according to the Central Bank report. And, the fall in current revenue and the growth in current expenditure for the quarter reduced government's current surplus to \$8.5 million from a year earlier when the surplus was \$19.7 million, the bank stated. [Excerpt] [FL222018 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 17 Oct 81 p 1]

INFLATION RATE--The rate of inflation for the first 6 months of this year, as measured by changes in the retail price index for New Providence, was 12.9 percent. This is an increase of 1.5 percent over the same period last year, the latest quarterly review of the Central Bank stated. For the year ending June 1981, the rate of inflation rose by 12.5 percent and for the second quarter of this year the inflation rate moved up by 2.9 percent. [Excerpt] [FL222018 Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 17 Oct 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025/1003

BRIEFS

LOAN AGREEMENT--The Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning Mr Tom Adams, yesterday signed on behalf of the Government of Barbados a U.S. \$30 million loan (BDS \$60 million) to be used to finance capital projects in Barbados. The loan has been arranged and is being managed by Orion Royal Bank limited and has a tenure of eight years. [Excerpt] [FL222018 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 17 Oct 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025/1003

BRIEFS

FOOD EXPORTS INCREASE--Rio de Janeiro (DAILY POST)--Food exports had a \$2 billion increase this year, summing up to (\$9) billion, coffee sales excluded. CACEX (External Commerce Board) reported that best results were soybeans, almost a 50 percent increase, from \$2.2 to \$3.2, and orange juice, also 50 percent, from \$400 to \$600 million. Chicken meat will produce \$300 million--\$100 million more than last year, and frozen and canned meat \$300 million total. Eggs will earn \$150 million. Fruits and vegetables will bring more than \$100 million. Cashew nuts, \$90 million and Brazil nuts, \$30 million. Chocolates varies from \$20 to \$25 million. Black pepper and other condiments may net \$70 million. Pig and ox tripe reached \$10 million, fish and shell fish, from \$150 to \$200 million. [PY220209 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 21 Oct 81 p 7]

STEEL CONSORTIUM FORMED--Fourteen companies that produce steel products have formed a consortium to export to Latin American countries. The companies are located in Sao Paulo, Brasilia and Belo Horizonte and will receive financial support from the Sao Paulo government. [Text] [PY220209 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 21 Oct 81 p 7]

SHIP PURCHASES--Rio de Janeiro (DAILY POST)--Transportation Minister Eliseu Rezende declared that the government will approve the purchase of 15 ships instead of the 21 which had been requested during the RIOMAR (International Maritime Fair of Rio de Janeiro). Rezende mentioned 2 basic reasons for these imports: The shipyards contacted in the exterior are currently building ships other than the ones Brazil would import, therefore the delivery of the ships would take too long. The other reason is that SUNAMAN (Superintendency of the Merchant Marine) has an external debt of \$1.8 billion and needs to pay \$400 million this year. Imports offer credits with low interest rates which help the payments of this debt. Some 470,000 tons have already been ordered internally. New contracts, approved in RIOMAR, will sum up to 680,000 tons. [Excerpt] [PY220209 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 21 Oct 81]

PLN, FSLN DELEGATIONS CLASH AT COPPAL MEETING

PA170315 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Oct 81

[Text] The National Liberation Party [PLN] and the Sandinist delegation had a bitter argument at the permanent conference of Latin American political parties, Copppal, in Mexico City.

The National Liberation Party issued an official communique in which it says that it voted against a Copppal resolution in support of the Sandinist Revolution, because the Costa Rican democrats are against Marxist-Leninist regimes. The National Liberation Party negative vote precipitated a verbal clash between the National Liberation Party delegation and Sandinist delegate Commander Tomas Borge. The Nicaraguan press has fully covered Borge's defamatory remarks against the brave and democratic position assumed by the National Liberation Party.

The situation created at Copppal as result of the National Liberation Party stand, led to the resignation of Copppal's president, who is also the secretary of Mexico's Institutional Revolutionary Party, PRI. By the way, the PRI is Copppal's political backbone. The fact that the National Liberation Party does not approve of Marxism-Leninism taking over the Nicaraguan revolution has been played up by ill-intentioned politicians in Costa Rica, who are trying to undermine the National Liberation Party by lying, altering and distorting its real attitude regarding the defense of democracy and the verbal clash it held with the Sandinist delegation at Copppal in Mexico City.

The National Liberation Party did not accept a motion of solidarity and of unconditional support to the Nicaraguan revolution which is under the control of Marxism-Leninism, (Enrique Obregon), a National Liberation Party delegate to the Copppal, said. Especially when the main leaders of the Nicaraguan revolution claim that the revolution is Marxist-Leninist and that it follows the USSR's leadership. This has been said by Commander Humberto Ortega Saavedra in statements that the Costa Rican press has fully covered. The National Liberation Party says in its communique.

CSO: 3010/174

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY ACTIONS SCORED IN COMMENTARIES

Biological Warfare Condemned

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 27 Sep 81 p 6

[Text] U.S. imperialism recognizes no boundaries when it comes to acts of aggression and hostility against Cuba. Ever since the people of Cuba decided to put an end to neocolonial dependency and exercise their right to sovereignty, the United States, a big power with the greatest material and technical resources, has pursued a policy in regard to this small Caribbean island that represents a shameful blot on contemporary history, a dishonor to the U.S. Government and one more example of the imperialist system's inhuman nature.

For the last 22 years the Government of the United States and the CIA have been engaged in a diversionary campaign to discredit the Cuban Revolution and to obstruct the support it receives from progressive sectors. The slander campaign has been accompanied by all sorts of hostile actions: pressure, invasions, infiltration of counterrevolutionary elements, blackmail, attempts to assassinate leaders of the Revolution, sabotage, economic blockade and attempts to isolate the island from the rest of the world.

Now the list of U.S. attacks against the homeland of Jose Marti includes the possibility (which Cubans are convinced of) of the use of bacteriological weapons in the "secret war" against the Cuban people.

In the last two years Cuba has been hit by five epidemics that have affected people, animals and plants: African swine fever, sugarcane smut, tobacco blue mold, hemorrhagic dengue and, more recently, hemorrhagic conjunctivitis.

The African swine fever epidemic and the blights that hit sugarcane and tobacco (sugar and tobacco are two major export items) caused incalculable damage to the country's economy.

More deplorable and more alarming still was the dengue epidemic with its thousands upon thousands of victims, most of them children, and the over 100 deaths resulting from it, and then the hemorrhagic conjunctivitis epidemic.

The quick and effective action taken by the Cuban Government which has spared neither efforts nor economic resources; the dedication of scientists and technicians, doctors and nurses; and the coolheadedness and discipline of the Cuban

people have made it possible to deal successfully with this new form of aggression whose scope cannot be foretold.

It is known that the United States has shown an interest in and poured money into developing bacteriological weapons. This is recognized in an official report submitted to a U.S. Senate subcommittee, which draws attention to the purported advantages of a biological weapons system. The report reads in part as follows:

"Biological warfare is the deliberate introduction of disease-producing organisms into populations of persons, animals or plants. The organisms are the same as those found in nature, but can be selected and cultivated so that they will be more virulent and resistant than those in nature. Some can become resistant to drugs and antibiotics."

Further on the report states:

"It is difficult to prove culpability for an attack under certain circumstances, for the agents exist in nature in any case and if these are sent clandestinely, it could be argued that the situation is the result of a spontaneous epidemic. The effectiveness of large-scale biological attacks against unprotected populations can be compared with the effect of nuclear weapons. Crops are vulnerable to biological attacks.

"Biological weapons are extremely suitable for covert use, such as sabotage. They function by means of delayed reactions, are difficult to detect and require only a small quantity; moreover, given that the biological agents are invisible, odorless, tasteless and that they generally produce no immediate physiological harm, their early detection would probably be nearly impossible."

It is common knowledge that in the Vietnam War the United States made extensive use of highly toxic chemical agents in attacks against civilians and animals, as well as plant killers that devastated crops, plantations and forests.

It is also known that there are secret bases in the United States where chemical and biological weapons are developed. Serious studies have been made there on the use of insects as disease carriers. For example, mosquitoes infected with yellow fever, malaria and dengue; fleas infected with plague; ticks with tularemia, relapsing fever and Colorado fever; houseflies with cholera, anthrax and dysentery. The U.S. army and other institutions carry out regular experiments with such disease carriers for military purposes, and they do so even in populated areas, as was denounced not long ago by India.

The idea of employing biological weapons against Cuba has been mentioned on several occasions by the U.S. press itself. Official documents, for example, the report submitted by a U.S. Senate special committee in 1975, also refer to plans for chemical warfare against Cuba.

This month the U.S. press announced the publication of a book containing evidence that the United States has used biological weapons against Cuba and that Washington was responsible for the African swine fever epidemic in Cuba. The book was written by a former FBI agent and a U.S. journalist.

The strange, suspicious and unexplainable forms in which these blights and diseases have appeared in Cuba; the United States' consistently hostile policy toward the Cuban people; the presence in the U.S. Government of unscrupulous, cynical and warmongering elements, and their persistent threats of naval blockade and new attacks against Cuba; the U.S. administration's insistence on creating all kinds of problems for the Cuban people; the confessions made by the imperialists themselves; and the U.S. administration's irresponsible policy that has brought humanity to the brink of a new, catastrophic world war serve to confirm the suspicion that the imperialist Government of the United States is using bacteriological weapons against the Cuban people, their environment and resources.

World public opinion must be alerted against this new sinister escalation in the United States' aggressive plans against Cuba. Honest people the world over must raise their voices to condemn these criminal and fascist practices and to help put an end to the insane policy of the dealers in death.

Guantanamo Base Worker 'Tortured'

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 27 Sep 81 p 8

[Article by Josefina Ortega]

[Text] "I thought they had finished with me after the violent interrogation sessions, the beatings, the torture and threats. But they still weren't satisfied. They took me to where the prisoners wash their clothes and there, when I was nearly dead, they started the accusations again: 'You're a Castro agent; tell us who the G-2 people here are. Tell us or you'll pay for it, you son of a bitch!'

"I swore by all the saints that it was false, that I was a revolutionary but not an agent or any thing like that. I was desperate. I even swore by Eisenhower. That really made them mad and they gave me a hell of a beating.

"I practically crawled back into my cell. Then they came to tell me that if I decided to talk there was a phone in the hall."

Everybody in Caimanera knows Manuel Prieto, who is now a member of the Party. After only a short time in the area we had heard so many people talk about him that we decided to interview him about the time 20 years ago when the enemy had tried in vain to break him down.

In Occupied Territory

Prieto started working at the Guantanamo base in the 1940s and became a welder's assistant.

"The pay wasn't very good, as you can imagine! We got a quarter of what people from the United States were paid for doing the same job.

"We had a job, sure, but we had to swallow plenty of bitter pills there with part of our territory seized from us--not to mention in Caimanera itself! The whole

place was run by marines who were always high on drugs and booze. Prostitution, gambling and vice were the order of the day.

"So everyone in Caimanera was overjoyed when victory was won. Caimanera was the first free town in Cuba; it was never retaken.

"But from the very start the Yankees tried to do harm from the base. Every Batista thug who took refuge there was welcomed with open arms. But my comrades and I were put on their files because we had participated in the revolutionary struggle. They kept telling me to stay in the base—and that was just the start."

The Interrogation

Prieto was arrested by the police at the base on January 5, 1961. It was midnight, and he had just finished his shift. He was accused of being an agent of the Cuban Government.

"They spent a lot of time questioning me with a light shining in my face. It was the police chief and a lieutenant commander, armed to the teeth. And there was a guy called Calzadilla, a thug they had there to spy on the Cubans. I was beaten and threatened.

"Another interrogation session lasted until 11:30 the next morning. That was in the office of the intelligence service in the old hospital. This time it was an officer called Faney and his bloodhound Walsh, but they used the same methods: beatings, threats and abuse. They even tried to scare me with a lie detector and some kind of paralyzing injections. Then they tried offering me money and saying they'd get me and my family out of the country if I'd work against Cuba.

"When they realized they wouldn't get me to renounce my principles either way, they took me to the Carabela Point jail, to a dungeon where there's no light at all. At nightfall they moved me to a cell near the road where I could hear them saying things like 'All Communists should have their heads chopped off!'"

Not Just an Aspirin

Prieto spent two or three days in the cell with no food. He was in very bad physical condition. Then Faney and Walsh returned mercilessly to the attack. That was when he was badly beaten for having sworn by Eisenhower.

He decided to get sent to the hospital to see if he could escape.

"I got the idea of sticking a splinter into my gum. When it was bleeding profusely, I called the marine on guard. I coughed and spat, but it didn't work.

"Then I stuck my thumb in my throat and rubbed hard until I'd done some damage. I called the guard again. He got rather nervous this time and went for the doctor.

"They loaded me into a truck like a sack of potatoes. The truck seemed to go round in circles for miles. I was really feeling bad; when they saw the shape

I was in Faney started up the blandishments again. Since they didn't get an answer out of me I was taken to the office of the intelligence service.

"The doctor gave me two pills; according to him they were to cure my cold. One was aspirin and the other a drug. I'm sure that's what it was because after I swallowed it I felt very strange, my body felt heavy as lead and I couldn't move my tongue. They acted as if nothing unusual were happening and they started asking again: 'Are you with the G-2? Who do you work with?'--on and on....

"When they brought pills again I took the aspirin, but when they weren't watching I crushed the drug under my foot. I didn't eat anything for fear of being drugged; the questions, beatings and threats kept up for five or six days. I never thought I'd get out alive.

"Then they told me, 'Your wife and your eight children are here: it's up to you. We can get them out of the country right away and you can work anywhere you want.' I didn't believe my wife could be there because she was pregnant and due to give birth soon. When I heard her voice over the phone I just collapsed."

The Rescue

"From all the comings and goings my wife found out where I was being held and in a flash she pushed the policeman away from the door and got in. It was sheer chaos. I was on the ground beaten to a pulp. The children were screaming and kicking, throwing papers and ink.... One of the Yankee officers took off his belt and whipped them.

"But the scandal had occurred. My wife screamed at the top of her lungs: 'I'm not leaving here until he comes with me!' If it hadn't been for that they would have killed me--afterwards they did kill one of the workers, Lopez Sabariego, and a fisherman, Rodolfo Rosell.

"The whole affair backfired. They were forced to release me. At the dock they read out some papers which I think were the charges against me, I don't really know. I was virtually unconscious, I couldn't even stand. It was January 11."

The Reward

Back in Cuban territory, Prieto was taken to the hospital, where he spent a month in the emergency ward. He had some broken bones and was in a terrible condition. When he regained consciousness he was told that he had two more sons: Fidel and Raul. Both are now soldiers.

What better reward for a man who refused to betray the country his sons now defend?

Colombian U.S. Support Decried

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 11 Oct 81 p 14

[Article by Juan Marrero]

[Text]

● THE COLOMBIAN Government's efforts to win favor with U.S. imperialism are really pathetic. First, it joined in U.S. maneuvers to prevent Cuba from being elected to a seat on the UN Security Council. Then it severed diplomatic relations with Cuba in order to contribute to the U.S. policy of stepping up the blockade and isolation of Cuba. And more recently it announced that it was sending troops to the Sinai Peninsula to back up the Camp David agreements against the Arab peoples, particularly against the Palestinian people.

The Colombian Government is also known for its opposition to the joint declaration issued by France and Mexico which recognizes the representativity of the Salvadoran patriots and offers a political solution via negotiation to the tragic situation in El Salvador. Thus the government of Turbay Ayala — which tries to pass itself off as democratic — is demonstrating that it's a staunch defender, along with U.S. imperialism, of those who murder and torture the Salvadoran people.

Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmons has just visited Peking, where he met with Deng Xiaoping, Zhao Ziyang, Huang Hua and other leaders. According to the news dispatches, they talked at length about Cuba ("against Cuba" would be more accurate) and the results of these talks were so satisfactory for both sides that at the conclusion of every meeting there were enthusiastic comments about the "cordiality," "heartfelt friendship" and "identical points of view" that characterized the visit.

However, what really aroused our curiosity was the Colombian foreign minister's sudden inclination to employ the pseudorevolutionary rhetoric of the Peking regime. Is he trying to make people forget his servile attitude toward imperialism? That would be quite a feat, since the Chinese themselves keep trying day after day and they haven't gotten anywhere. Lemos Simmons said, "We hope that the Caribbean Sea will cease to be the scene of clashes between superpowers and become a sea of peace."

It's bad enough for China to say this, but it's even worse for Colombia to repeat it, considering that it took part in the Ocean

Venture 81 military maneuvers — which began in the Caribbean and are still in progress in the Atlantic — and will participate in the UNITAS maneuvers. Both of these operations are conducted by the United States, the superpower that considers the Caribbean its own backyard. All we can say is that that's a hell of a way for Colombia to contribute to turning the Caribbean into a sea of peace.

Everybody in the Caribbean wants peace, but nobody can ignore the fact that what's really a threat to peace in the Caribbean is the presence of 16,000 U.S. soldiers stationed on bases in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guantánamo and the Canal Zone, the endless patrolling by U.S. warships, the frequent air and naval maneuvers that constitute acts of provocation and the threats of intervention by the United States. And the Colombian foreign minister is well aware of this. All this Chinese-style talk about "superpowers in the Caribbean" is a feeble excuse, and the Colombian foreign minister should be ashamed of himself.

COSTA RICA'S MORA VALVERDE HONORED BY STATE COUNCIL

Rafael Rodriguez' Address

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 11 Oct 81 p 3


[Text]

Speech given by Carlos Rafael Rodríguez, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and vice-president of the Councils of State and of Ministers, at the presentation of the Playa Girón Order to Manuel Mora Valverde, general secretary of the People's Vanguard Party of Costa Rica

Dear Comrade Fidel Castro;

Dear Comrade Manuel Mora Valverde;

Comrades:



TWENTY YEARS ago, when the dust mingled with the heroic blood of our people fighting against imperialist aggression had barely settled after our great battle, the Cuban Revolution decided to create the Playa Girón Order commemorating that great feat, to express special recognition of those who had especially distinguished themselves in the struggle against imperialism and for the peoples' liberation, and in the exercise of international solidarity.

Tonight, it is our great pleasure to comply with the resolution issued by our Council of State conferring this Order on a ceaseless fighter for the freedom and sovereignty of his people and of all the peoples of what José Martí called Our America: a proven militant of proletarian internationalism; and a loyal, staunch friend of our Revolution and our people; our dear comrade, Manuel Mora Valverde, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Vanguard Party of Costa Rica.

By presenting Comrade Manuel Mora with this decoration, which symbolizes a great defeat for imperialism in the Americas and the irreversible consolidation of socialism in our country, the Party, the Revolutionary Government and all the people of Cuba are paying tribute to a man who for 50 years — since he founded the Party which groups the Costa Rican Communists in 1931 — has led the workers and progressive forces of his country in the struggle against the oligarchy, the false apostles of representative democracy and U.S. domination both in his own land and the rest of Latin America.

Manuel Mora's loyalty to the cause he embraced when he was a student has been confirmed on a host of different occasions. We are well aware of how difficult and fraught with danger the life of a Communist is in countries subjected to U.S. neocolonialism. As a young man, Manuel Mora fought his first battles against the United Fruit banana monopoly, that Mamita Yumel whose sinister presence in Costa Rica was masterfully depicted by a man who was Manuel Mora's companion for long years until his premature death: Carlos Luis Fallas. Mora and his Party were in the vanguard of the big strikes and people's actions that shook Costa Rica in the '30s; and since then his actions have always responded to the demands of the struggle: speaking in public at times, in Parliament in others, and later, when the time came, fighting weapon in hand. After that came prison and exile. Amidst persecution and repression, enduring the difficult conditions imposed by clandestinity, always confronting the systematic slander campaign that the reactionaries, with their superior material resources, launched — though always in vain — against him and his organization, Manuel Mora has remained an exemplary communist leader, an authentic patriot, an unyielding internationalist and a living example of honesty, moral strength, ability and courage.

The only politics with a future, Lenin said, are politics based on principles. Under the leadership of Manuel Mora, the People's Vanguard Party of Costa Rica has always been a defender of Marxism-Leninism and has always demonstrated its loyalty to the principles of revolutionary internationalism by concrete deeds. It has remained adamant in the face of every attempt at revisionism, opportunism and anti-Sovietism. Manuel Mora, in particular, as the representative of these principles in the international arena, has become one of the most outstanding and prestigious figures of the international workers' and communist movement.

During all these years of Revolution and often in very complicated circumstances, we have had the opportunity to appreciate the fine and militant role played by the Costa Rican Communists and their leader. That is why this is a good moment to express the high regard and the well-deserved recognition we accord to Manuel Mora's firm stand

ard to say, as revolutionaries and as Latin Americans, that at this time, full of hopes and perils for our peoples of Central America and the Caribbean, we are proud of the presence among us of such wise and experienced leaders as Comrade Manuel Mora.

The Costa Rican Communists defended the extraordinary Sandinista struggle against Somoza's dictatorship with the same ardor that they defended the Spanish Republic more than 40 years ago. Members of the People's Vanguard Party and its youth organization mustered an internationalist fighters' brigade to support the Nicaraguan people's struggle in the last stage of the war, thus writing one more glorious page in the history of their Party. That gesture, however, is not past history, for it remains alive in solidarity with Nicaragua, which keeps the Costa Rican Communists in a state of permanent mobilization, condemning and denouncing the Government of the United States for its plans of aggression against Nicaragua. The Costa Rican Communists have also embraced the cause of the heroic peoples of El Salvador and Guatemala, and are struggling against the criminal interference by U.S. imperialism which shamelessly supports, arms and advises those genocidal regimes. And in this struggle — the most important and decisive in the present Latin American political arena and one of the world's most pressing and critical issues — the People's Vanguard Party and its general secretary, Comrade Mora, occupy a position in the front-line.

But the Costa Rican Communists have not neglected the complexities or the dangers implicit in their own country's economic and political crisis. They are fighting in their own land, too, and preparing themselves for any eventuality, demonstrating the truth in the words of that great socialist, Jean Jaurès: "A little internationalism separates us from our country, but a great deal of internationalism draws us closer to it." The Costa Rican Communists, as full-fledged internationalists, are once again demonstrating that only those who are capable

of defending other peoples and fighting for other peoples will be willing, when the time comes, to give everything for their own people.

Today we must also say how deeply indebted Cuba is to the Costa Rican people and their vanguard organizations, particularly the People's Vanguard Party and Comrade Manuel Mora, for their friendship and solidarity. In a deeply moving gesture of loyalty, they have embraced our country's cause as if it were their own. It can be said with certainty that in every moment of danger or aggression, in every revolutionary battle, Cuba has always had the immediate, determined and open-handed support of our Costa Rican comrades. The malicious slander campaign against the Cuban Revolution and socialism that reactionaries and imperialists put into effect in Costa Rica was of no avail. Our reality, our brotherhood and the justness of our cause were always stronger than all their maneuvers and all their lies.

Dear Comrade Mora, our people have dedicated this year to the 20th anniversary of the victory at Playa Girón. We know that that victory does not belong to us alone. It also belongs, as it belongs to many other Latin Americans, to peoples near and far throughout the world, to your Party, to your people, and to all those who in those stirring days went out on the streets to fight for Cuba, enrolled to fight in our country or contributed with their protest to raise the mighty wave of international public opinion. Girón was a feat in which all participated, a victory for socialism and a dawn of hope for all our exploited and scorned countries.

In keeping with the resolution issued by our Council of State, Comrade Fidel Castro will now present you with the medal of the Playa Girón Order. It symbolizes the gratitude, recognition and respect of our people, our Party and thousands of Latin American fighters. It also represents Cuba's friendship and the unbreakable tie of solidarity that unites us.

Thank you very much.

Mora Valverde's Response

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 11 Oct 81 p 3

[Text]

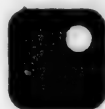
Speech by Manuel Mora Valverde, general secretary of the People's Vanguard Party of Costa Rica, at the ceremony where Commander in Chief Fidel Castro pinned on him the Playa Girón Order

Comrade Commander Fidel Castro;

Comrade Members of the Council of State;

Comrade Members of the Political Bureau and the Secretariat;

Comrades All:



A DECORATION conferred by the top and most capable revolutionary leaders of the Cuban people and awarded by Fidel Castro is one of the greatest honors to which a Latin American Communist can aspire.

Upon receiving the Playa Girón Order tonight, I necessarily think of my Party with pride and love, the Costa Rican Communists' Party with which my life is fused forever. We Costa Rican Communists have been and will continue to be strongly united in both times of joy and bitterness, in militant solidarity with

peoples fighting for their liberation and especially in the struggle against the social regime prevailing in our country and against imperialism.

The Playa Girón Order symbolizes an unparalleled struggle in the history of Latin America. The Cuban people, inspired and led by Fidel Castro, engaged in bloody battle and were able to defeat the leading imperialist power on earth to defend the first socialist Revolution in the Americas. It was a demonstration of heroism, but it was also a demonstration of revolutionary awareness, of revolutionary will, of undying, exemplary determination. That victory definitively marked a new course in the history of this continent: the course of socialism, which is the course of true democracy, of full realization and human happiness.

The democratic and anti-imperialist revolution, which can pave the way for socialist society, has already matured in all of Latin America. The Cuban people were the first to break the chains of imperialism, and, while they began the transformation of their own social system, they also created and continue to create conditions which facilitate the liberation of the rest of the peoples of Latin America. The liberation of Nicaragua and Grenada, two serious blows to U.S. imperialism's plans to dominate our continent, was not due to some dark maneuver by Cuba, as the CIA's hired propagandists claim. It was the outcome of those peoples' struggles and of the ripening of conditions taking place all over the continent. However, had there not been a Cuban Revolution and had its leaders not acted with their customary degree of audacity and wisdom, the imperialists would have been able to act more effectively in their effort to prevent the liberation of Grenada and Nicaragua.

Regardless of the affection and admiration which have always made us feel very close to the Cuban people, their labor movement, their heroes, their writers and artists, the Costa Rican Communists have always been fully aware of the fact that the Cuban Revolution is not an isolated one. It is part of the continental revolution. That is why we regard it and love it as our own revolution. We have defended it with all our might, with all the means available to us and regardless of the sacrifices. In the face of all the infamy heaped on it by imperialism with a view to isolating it from our peoples, we feel sure that we have been able to make it part of the hearts and minds of our people. They have been given an understanding of the great humanism which characterizes Cuban society today. We will continue along this line. We realize

that our best contribution is to develop our own revolutionary process and constantly struggle against the imperialist monster, which is trying to deepen and consolidate its domination throughout the Caribbean. But if one day the fascist clique which now controls the Government of the United States tries to make real its threats against Cuba by attacking it, for us it would be a very great honor to share the fate of the Cuban people. The watchword Fidel issued at the last Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba, when he warned the aggressors that to take over Cuba they would first have to reduce it to ashes, is also our watchword and we are certain it is shared by the entire revolutionary movement in Central America. If they unleash their brutality on Cuba or if they decide to occupy El Salvador, Guatemala or Nicaragua militarily, it is very likely, as the Cuban Government once said, that a new Vietnam will be born in the heart of Latin America.

As everyone knows, the United States has declared that the Caribbean is of vital importance to its interests and security. In line with this statement, they claim the right to occupy it completely or partially whenever they feel like it. Now they are planning to turn Costa Rica into a breeding ground of intrigue and possible springboard of aggression against Nicaragua. They're maneuvering to install an ultraright, even fascist, government in our country to immobilize the revolutionary forces there. They will fail! The Costa Rican labor movement is taking action to block such a scheme. In the spirit of democratic and anti-imperialist unity, the People's Vanguard and Socialist Parties and the People's Revolutionary Movement, grouped in the United People's coalition, plan to mobilize the broadest sectors of the people to foil the imperialist scheme and to give the greatest solidarity possible to the Nicaraguan Revolution and the peoples of El Salvador and Guatemala.


Comrade Fidel, you can be sure that the glorious symbol you have placed in my hands today will be duly honored by the labor and revolutionary movement in Costa Rica.

I don't want to end without expressing my deep personal feelings at this solemn moment. During my long life of revolutionary struggle I have had the joy of witnessing the birth of a new world, the socialist world. I have seen the doors of revolution open in Latin America. I have seen a great man rise up from the heart of Our America; I have seen him become a teacher and a wise, courageous and honest leader. Our America needs him. Comrade Fidel Castro, allow me to wish you a long life.

INTELLECTUALS MEETING ISSUES FINAL DECLARATION

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 20 Sep 81 p 8

[Text]

 AS PARTICIPANTS in the 1st Meeting of Intellectuals for the Sovereignty of the Peoples of Our America, convened by Casa de las Américas and held in Havana September 4-7, 1981, we have reaffirmed the indispensable nature of our unity and defined our responsibilities in these difficult times. In order to assure continuity in our actions we have decided to set up a Standing Committee made up of representatives of our culture.

Now that the U.S. Government is threatening to use the obsolete "big stick" policy again and preparing for a new world war, the intellectuals of Our America are duty bound to heighten our commitment to our peoples, especially those facing long-standing oppression with more heroism than material resources.

Our America long ago ceased to be a territory open to the lawlessness of colonial empires. The peoples are now winning the right to speak out and it is our duty to articulate and uphold that right. The enemy is aware of this, so it has placed all the power of its repressive imagination at the service of a ruthless operation of cultural genocide. This is the reason behind the systematic campaign of distortion with which the imperialist monopolies, with the complicity of local oligarchies and their own mass media, are trying to deform the cultural identity of our peoples in order to help domination along. Faced with this conspiracy, we will uphold truth, justice and beauty, and we will do it not just in theory, but with the clear-sighted determination required by the situation and in keeping with the characteristics of our nations. Only the full exercise of sovereignty which will enable them to use their huge wealth and cultural potential for their own benefit will provide our nations with a solid foundation and valid *raison d'être*.

In this spirit we salute the approaching sovereignty of Belize and pledge that the popular interests which made it possible will not be subverted by others alien to those interests. Likewise we firmly repudiate the backing which the Reagan administration gives the most barbarous regimes in the hemisphere, and indignantly denounce the fact that those responsible for the most terrible acts of terrorism being committed in the world have the gall to label as terrorists patriots fighting for the happiness of their peoples, for their identity and their culture, as in El Salvador and Guatemala, whose finest sons and daughters have set out, for once and for all, to gain the right to be themselves, no matter how great the sacrifice.

It is not an international plot, as they would have people believe, it is the darkness and poverty of many years of imperialist oppression which explain the irrepressible upsurge in the drive for

liberation now making itself felt all over Our America. The dishonest attempt to call the patriots of those countries terrorists is, among other things, aimed at legitimizing U.S. intervention and preparing the ground by means of the most diabolical propaganda machine ever known for an overt attack on Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada, and even Mexico, whose independent foreign policy we salute.

Imperialism is not something apart from or unconnected with underdevelopment. It means exploitation of our resources and of our peoples, illegal intervention in our internal affairs, enormous foreign debts which virtually mortgage national sovereignty itself, inflation, monopoly control of production, markets and the mass media, and attempts to divide us when our unity is vital in order to secure fundamental rights and see to it that they are respected. This is known from colonized Puerto Rico to Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay and Haiti, countries whose peoples are subjected to genocide by tyrannical military regimes, and it is also known in the last remaining colonial enclaves in the Caribbean.

Imperialism's present aggressive policy is an indication of its weakness not its strength. The world today is not as they want it, so all their efforts to use force to prevent the liberation of peoples have failed, as shown by the wars imperialism has recently fought and lost. The people have started to open new paths and rewrite their own history. Repression and violence will not stop them.

We come from many different countries and we do not all have the same views. But these differences are not by any means antagonistic; on the contrary, they are yet another indication of our creative wealth. We have cast aside our secondary differences and put forward that which unites us on behalf of the peoples of Our America.

And not just on their behalf. From our trench of ideas, for which millions of men and women who are still without access to culture have given their flesh and blood, we resolutely condemn the terrible arms race which is reaching the heights of madness, and in our rejection we join with all the peoples of the world including, of course, the people of the United States, who displayed such admirable courage and solidarity when they opposed their government's criminal aggression against Vietnam.

The decision to manufacture the neutron bomb, which was announced on the anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, has increased the pessimism of many people regarding the outlook for peace and the fate of humanity as a whole. The intellectuals, writers and artists of Our America, faced with this grave risk of holocaust, choose life. We will not leave this to chance, we will struggle with all our hearts, all our might, all our spirit, so that peace may prevail as the only possible victory over death.

The neutron bomb or any other weapon of mass destruction can be set off by itself. People make the decisions for its mission of death. But although these people have the totalitarian possibility of destruction in their hands they can also be stopped by the peoples' outcry. It's now that we must strengthen the effectiveness of words and images, their powers to persuade, to recruit creative forces and in a lucid manner make everyone understand that human extermination can be prevented, and it can and should be prevented with the invincible power of the intelligence.

FRIENDSHIP HOSPITAL BUILT IN VIETNAM DESCRIBED

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 4 Oct 81 p 12

[Article by Fernando G. Davalos]

[Text]



THE VIETNAM-CUBA Friendship General Hospital is located in Dong Hoi, Binh Tri Tien province, and has 450 beds. It is designed to provide service for an overwhelmingly rural region of nearly 400 000 people. The population is quite dispersed, since heavy Yankee bombing forced many of the residents to leave Dong Hoi and spread out over the surrounding countryside.

The city of Dong Hoi, located only a few dozen kilometers from the 17th parallel — that "border" imposed by imperialism on the Vietnamese nation — was so devastated that it still has not been possible to reabsorb all the people who left during the war.

The hospital will care for the people in this part of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam who were especially hard hit by the Yankee genocide.

The new hospital covers an area of 37 000 square meters and is divided into six sections. The Giron prefabricated construction system was used in the project, with concrete sections cast on the job site.

The work was carried out by a Cuban brigade working alongside their Vietnamese counterparts. The construction workers were divided up according to the different components of the project: the outpatient clinic, two inpatient wards, facilities for general services, three central wings, the main body of the hospital, the lobby, maintenance section, special installations room and outside facilities.

While local aggregate was used, most of the cement, construction equipment and

other materials employed in building the hospital came from Cuba.

Special mention should be made of the efforts to ensure a constant supply of water to the hospital, which made it necessary to lay pipelines from a lake two kilometers away.

The hospital has a central lab and another in the emergency room which can undertake all sorts of clinical and bacteriological tests.

It contains 12 operating rooms and six X-ray machines, along with a physiotherapy department designed for a staff of over 20.

The Dong Hoi hospital will provide neonatal, pediatric, outpatient, emergency, surgery, obstetric and burns services.

The outpatient service will function as a polyclinic and includes a dental department with six chairs and a prosthetics section.

The hospital likewise contains a fully-equipped intensive care ward with electronic monitoring devices.

It has facilities for the distribution of medicinal gases such as nitrous oxide and oxygen, two 500-kw power plants for emergency service, two turbogenerators to provide air conditioning for most of the sections, and two boilers for hot water and steam.

The center is also equipped with ten electric and steam autoclaves for sterilization purposes and has two ambulances.

The new hospital is being gradually put into operation and will surely contribute to improving the health care of the people in the area.

FEUE LEADER ANNOUNCES ANTI-IMPERIALIST SEMINAR

PA132258 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Oct 81

[Statement by (Eugenio Jijon), first vice president of the Federation of Ecuadorean University Students, on 9 October 1981 in Havana]

[Text] The main characteristic of our people's struggle is precisely the unity against imperialism and supporting democratic and patriotic forces of national liberation. The students have an important role to play in the struggle for better living conditions, for the defense of our natural resources and to see that the democratic gains obtained after 7 years of dictatorship are respected.

The Federation of Ecuadorean University Students, FEUE, with its 200,000 members, is an important factor in this unity process. We are making contacts and increasing our relations with the Ecuadorean Federation of Politechnical Students (Federacion de Estudiantes Politecnicos del Ecuador), which recently held its first congress, and with the Ecuadorean Federation of Secondary Students, FESE, which is going to hold its third congress. These three organizations, the FEUE, the Ecuadorean Federation of Politechnical Students, and the FESE, have begun a number of talks aimed at establishing, as soon as possible, what we call the Students United Front, which together with the Workers United Front, of which the FEUE is part, will undoubtedly represent a unifying process for the people's struggles for better living conditions, better days and for happiness.

In relation to the continental seminar which will be held in Quito, this seminar is being organized by the continental organization of Latin American students, OCLAE, the International Union of Students, IUS and the FEUE, which on this occasion will be the host at the seminar.

During the seminar which will take place in October, we are going first to analyze the students' role in university reform, in the democratization of education and also the students' participation in the struggle that the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean are waging against imperialism in Latin America.

It is our belief that the seminar will constitute an important contribution to the student organization on the continent. It will also contribute a better understanding of the objectives we are pursuing with the university reform. We are also going to make a profound analysis of the various educational structures in the universities, of the repressive laws, of the reactionary and brain-washing nature of higher education, which is most of the time aloof from the nation's reality, a higher education which in most cases neither contributes to the nation's economic development, nor transforms the economic structures and instead tries to perpetuate the domination of imperialism and its allies in our respective countries.

COUNTRY SECTION

ECUADOR

BRIEFS

TECHNICAL AGREEMENT WITH BELGIUM--The Ecuadorean and Belgium Governments have agreed to expand their technical cooperation agreement to complete the exploration of mineral deposits in the northwest. The agreement also includes the creation of a mineralogy laboratory which will also train technicians. [PA270424 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Oct 81]

CSO: 3010/178

PDC'S SECRETARY GENERAL SPEAKS ON SIGNIFICANCE OF ELECTIONS

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 7 Oct 81 p 2

[Text] "I agree with Monsignor Rivera Damas that elections are a panacea; however, if the people legitimize the upcoming election process they will at the same time be rejecting armed struggle as the means for attaining power." This statement was made yesterday by Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, deputy secretary general of the PDC [Christian Democratic Party] as he revealed that the principal position taken in the United States by Jose Napoleon Duarte and his entourage was that elections are the alternative which will permit the Salvadoran people to move in the direction of democracy. "We must agree that today everyone is speaking of elections, including even the FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front] which through Dr Guillermo Manuel Ungo rejected any offer to dialogue last year. They were talking about negotiation; but, now that they feel militarily weak, they have begun to talk about dialogue," Rey Prendes said.

He added that those who have always maintained that there should be no dialogue are the very ones who believe that everything is resolved by killing. "They blindly reject dialogue and want everything to be resolved by means of monologue. "The PDC maintained last year that the only way to resolve the country's crisis is dialogue; and therefore, it convened sectors of the left and the so-called right; but no one seconded the position," he said.

Rey Prendes voiced his opinion: "This is perhaps the last opportunity the Salvadoran people have as regards elections, and they should not fail to take advantage of it."

On the subject of the trip to the United States, the PDC leader, in response to questions, said that there were no hostile demonstrations as some would have us believe. In San Francisco, where the greatest number of Salvadorans are to be found, he said that an anti-Duarte march was organized in which 3,000 persons participated, most of whom were Koreans, Haitians, Filipinos and persons belonging to other (U.S.) liberal and protest sectors and perhaps about 100 Salvadorans. He also said that there was another demonstrations by about 60 anticommunists.

He also revealed that with respect to the nuns assassinated last year, there were talks with the Archbishop of Washington, D. C. and officials of the Maryknoll Order of which the female missionaries were members. He said he had informed them that on the basis of investigations conducted by FBI agents six members of the National Guard were allegedly responsible. These men are now being held under detention by the

above-mentioned security organization; however, he pointed out that the Salvadoran legal system is not the same as the American legal system which could declare the accused to be guilty on the basis of a single bit of evidence. He he added, it is necessary to have witnesses and other evidence. "However," reported Col Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova, director of the National Guard, "Junta President Duarte was requested to ask the American authorities to have lie detector tests administered to the National Guard agents. Duarte did this. Later, with the deputy secretary of justice, Dina Castro de Callejas, he received the families of the assassinated nuns and gave them explanations, which they appeared to accept," Rey Prendes said.

8143

CSO: 3010/141

FDR SPOKESMAN ASSESSES 2-YEAR RULE OF JUNTA

PA161942 Paris AFP in Spanish 2140 GMT 15 Oct 81

[Text] San Jose, 15 Oct (AFP)--In reviewing the 2-year rule of the revolutionary junta of El Salvador, Jorge Villacorta, spokesman for the opposition Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), announced here that the fighting will be intensified but, at the same time, efforts will continue to find a negotiated solution to the virtual civil war in El Salvador.

"Our proposal, as presented to the UN General Assembly, constitutes an overall solution to the conflict and we will continue to push it, despite the negative response from the Salvadoran Government," said Villacorta, a former Christian democratic militant who was under secretary of agriculture in his country until March, 1981, and who is now exiled in Costa Rica.

Villacorta emphasized that: "In the meantime, the war will go on. As long as the United States continues to support the Salvadoran Army, they will refuse to negotiate." He insisted that a political solution to the conflict requires a change of attitude on the part of the United States.

The FDR is now promoting peace talks with the government of El Salvador, without any conditions, but it will not accept constituent elections in March "because the country's current situation offers no guarantees for an electoral process," Villacorta said.

In analyzing the development of the struggle in his country during the last few months, the FDR leader presented a rather optimistic picture of the achievements of the opposition forces in El Salvador.

"Two years ago there was no FMLN--the armed coalition of the opposition--and no FDR; we had no areas under our political and military control, like we have now; nor was there fighting throughout the country."

Villacorta recalled that "starting on 10 January, we began a strategic offensive that forced the army to deploy all of its men and equipment and to request U.S. support, in an attempt to wipe out our forces before the rainy season.

"That offensive is about to end and the popular army has been consolidated and controls areas that serve as a strategic rearguard for our forces, which also did not exist 2 years ago," Villacorta said.

Along with the military situation, the FDR's evaluation also focused on the country's deep economic crisis.

Figures announced by Villacorta, based on official data, indicate a 13 percent drop in the GNP in El Salvador during the past year; the closure of more than 200 industries; the loss of more than \$2 billion in foreign exchange; over 60 percent unemployment and underemployment; and a decrease in per capita income from \$315 in 1978 to \$272 in 1980.

In the field of human rights, Villacorta said, the result of these 2 years is "tragic."

"A state of siege and martial law are in effect, which have legalized the arrests, disappearances and assassinations."

"The university was sacked by the army and has been occupied for more than a year, while the government junta has proven that it is incapable of offering the country a stable solution," said the opposition leader.

Villacorta denounced the government's "moves to the right" during these 2 years, along with the imposition of what he called a "fascist military leadership."

He pointed out that "today the Christian Democratic Party is an empty shell without popular support, maintained in power by the U.S. Embassy, against the will of the military and private business sectors."

Villacorta recalled that the majority of the Salvadoran Christian Democratic leaders left the party to create the Social Christian Movement, headed by Ruben Zamora, who has now joined the FDR.

The opposition leader strongly criticized the Salvadoran Government's proposal for elections. He pointed out that they will be constituent elections and not elections to appoint new officials, and that they will be held with the sole participation of ultra-rightist groups, the only ones that have heeded the call to date.

"Within what framework will that constitution be drafted?" Villacorta asked, pointing out that "under those conditions, the elections will mean nothing."

CSO: 3010/174

PRELATE LAUDS END OF MARTIAL LAW, PROTESTS FMLN ACTS

PA182246 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2008 GMT 18 Oct 81

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Oct (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran Catholic Church today praised the promise of amnesty for the rebels and the suspension of martial law by the government, but protested against the supposed unification of the armies of northern Central America and the destruction of El Salvador's principal bridge by the guerrillas.

In his Sunday homily Arturo Rivera y Damas, apostolic administrator of San Salvador, said that the country has experienced "a contrast between lights and shadows," referring to the most outstanding events during the past week.

The priest concurred with the suspension of martial law and amnesty for the guerrillas announced by the military-Christian democratic junta during the commemoration of the second anniversary of the coup d'etat which overthrew President Carlos Humberto Romero.

However, Rivera y Damas added that these measures will be positive only if they are accompanied by respect for human rights and explanations about the missing, the dead and the political prisoners. He did not mention the state of siege imposed in January 1980.

Rivera y Damas criticized the celebration of the second anniversary of the military movement which overthrew General Romero because it lacked "a sincere evaluation" of the accomplishments and mistakes of the junta.

"The destruction of the Oro bridge was an irrational act," he said during his homily, delivered at the Metropolitan Cathedral.

The bridge, which was blown up on Thursday by FMLN guerrillas--according to military reports--United Central and Eastern El Salvador.

"I fear that the union of the three armies (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) could cause the internationalization of the Salvadoran conflict and extend the bloodshed to sister countries," said Rivera in reference to the supposed establishment of a military alliance between the countries of northern Central America. This alliance has been denied by spokesmen for the respective armed forces.

The apostolic administrator added that such an alliance "is not the correct path for the elections announced in the three countries, or for the search for peace in Central America."

Honduras will hold presidential, legislative and municipal elections in November 1982; Guatemala will hold elections in March 1982 and El Salvador will hold legislative elections in 1982 and presidential elections in 1983.

CSO: 3010/174

BRIEFS

ANTI-GUERRILLA SURVEILLANCE INTENSIFIED--The armed forces have ordered increased surveillance to counteract terrorist attacks against public services. It was announced yesterday that military and security forces have received instructions to operate with greater intensity and continuity and to establish special surveillance posts near electric power plants, substations, towers and generators. Consideration is being given to the urgent need to increase the number of agents, soldiers and Civil Defense personnel with the capability of facing up to terrorists engaged in causing damage to energy installations. The armed forces have also requested the collaboration of autonomous and semiautonomous state organizations to report on the situation existing in their respective districts and on the security needs of the services they offer. In particular, there are plans to intensify surveillance services at electric power plants and substations: security is also being provided to drinking water services; telecommunications; transportation in general; public and private buildings; theaters; etc. The armed forces have requested the cooperation of the public in general in the form of reports on any unusual circumstances, the presence of terrorists, common criminals or suspicious characters, etc. [Text]
[San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 6 Oct 81 p 2] 8143

CSO: 3010/141

BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

Condemns U.S. Plans

FL261644 Bridgetown CANA in English 1830 GMT 25 Oct 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 25 Oct (CANA)--The Bulgarian ambassador to Grenada, Boyko Dimitrov, has condemned plans by the U.S. administration of Ronald Reagan to deploy nuclear weapons in Europe. The criticism was made as several thousand persons prepared for another antinuclear protest in Brussels.

The ambassador, now on an official visit to Grenada, told reporters that any nuclear war would be suicidal because no such war can be limited geographically and said "it is the duty of every statesman to denounce the use of these weapons."

The diplomat also spoke about relations between Bulgaria and Grenada where the leftist New Jewel Movement (NJM) seized power in a March 1979 revolution ousting the Eric Gairy regime. He said that relations between the two countries are based on mutual understanding, adding that both Grenada and Bulgaria shared common goals in the promotion of peace and national liberation, as well as joint opposition to imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism and racism.

He also said that Bulgaria is interested in closer cooperation with Grenada, particularly in the economic, cultural and educational fields and said that the two countries have already held discussions on lines of cooperation.

The diplomat was leaving here today after a one-week official visit in which he presented his credentials to Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon. He also held discussions with Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman, as well as officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Aid From Bulgaria in Construction

FL262011 Bridgetown CANA in English 1629 GMT 26 Oct 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 25 Oct (CANA)--Bulgaria is to assist Grenada with the building of an ice plant and in the development of the island's agro-industries. This was disclosed this weekend by Boyko Dimitrov, Bulgaria's ambassador to Grenada as he concluded a week-long visit to the island. Dimitrov, who is stationed in Cuba, said negotiations for an agreement on technical cooperation will be completed within the next 2 months.

BRIEFS

COMMITTEE TO DEFEND TERRITORY--Georgetown, Guyana, 11 Oct (CANA)--A committee is to be established by government to supervise a number of activities for raising funds to better prepare Guyana to defend its territorial integrity. The committee is proposed in a bill passed unanimously by parliament. The measure also authorizes the issuance of premium bonds for similar preparedness. The bill arose from Venezuela's claim to about 70 percent of Guyana--territory west of the Essequibo River. [Text] [FL121700 Bridgetown CANA in English 1456 GMT 11 Oct 81]

CSO: 3025/1003

PNH GAIN SEEN WITH FINANCE SECRETARY

PA162016 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 15 Oct 81

["The Political Minute" commentary]

[Excerpts] We believe that the appointment of Benjamin Villanueva as secretary of state for finance and public credit represents a strengthening of the National Party of Honduras [PNH], since until yesterday Villanueva was personal adviser to PNH candidate Ricardo Zuniga.

The appointment of Villanueva was under consideration for several days; and the finance ministry is a post that the armed forces of Honduras maintained under their control. Thus the confirmation of Benjamin Villanueva means that the military has yielded this ministry to the PNH, and with this the PNH gains strength that could render it a possible winner in the 29 November elections.

There is something even more significant, and we will now analyze it as it is, in our opinion, of the greatest importance. In giving the finance ministry to the PNH on a silver platter, the armed forces of Honduras felt no embarrassment in demonstrating that there is complete identification between the military institution and the PNH.

This confirms an irony that will go down in history: the Liberal Party of Honduras won the 1980 elections, but paradoxically, the PNH, which lost, is the party that now controls the government that the liberals supposedly should control.

CSO: 3010/174

MORE MARXIST INDOCTRINATION MATERIALS FOUND AT UNIVERSITY

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Oct 81 p 2

[Text] San Pedro Sula--In the files of the secretariat general of the FEUH [Honduran University Students Federation] of the Atlantic Coast Regional University Center (CURLA), in La Ceiba, Marxist documents and indoctrination material were also found, Julio Cesar Valladares, president of the FEUH, said in this city yesterday after participating in the swearing in of the new La Ceiba student leaders.

"We have confiscated the documents we discovered, which will be taken to Tegucigalpa for analysis," Valladares said. He also reported that he had held talks with several leaders of the country's democratic organizations, including an important discussion with SITRATERCO [Union of Tela Railroad Company Workers].

The student did not provide details of the talks, although he did say that such exchanges "have one goal in common: defense of our democracy."

Comment on "His Possible Expulsion"

"That was a crazy idea of the rector of the UNAH [National Autonomous University of Honduras] who after listening to the press conference I held on the manner in which the university's autonomy was endangered by compromises with subversive sectors held a student assembly, while in reality what had been planned was a public forum," said Valladares as he commented on the threat of expulsion by Rector Almendarez.

He added, "Now he has scheduled an assembly for next Tuesday, and it is said that there he will request the expulsion of our adviser and myself, when the truth of the matter is that the person who should be removed is the rector who is fomenting a confrontation among the students, a situation which is highly dangerous but which the students will be unable to avoid.

"If this happens, it is possible that the security forces will intervene, which will justify a 'new struggle' on the part of the leftists, causing the situation we have denounced to be forgotten and involving all the leftists of the University," the student leader said.

Broad Front for the Defense of Democracy in the UNAH

Valladares explained, "We have formed a Broad Front for the Defense of Democracy in the University. Up to now, we have announced establishment of two sections, the central section in the UNAH in Tegucigalpa and the CURN [Northern Regional University Center], here in San Pedro Sula."

The CURN Front has already released its first statement in which it condemns "energetically the attitude taken by elements of the left which, sheltered by university autonomy, are engaged in the indoctrination and training of subversive elements and in other acts which are not in accord with university interests."

Another resolution adopted by the Broad Front states: "Give your fullest support to Companero Julio Cesar Valladares Salinas, president of the FEUH, and to Oswaldo Ramos Soto, former dean of the UNAH Law School."

The Front is requesting the "immediate dismissal of the university rector, Juan Almendarez Bonilla, as he is promoting in an anarchic manner the division of the university student body with a clear intent to involve them in violent confrontations to justify his complicity with the agents of subversion."

The San Pedro Sula Broad Front has declared itself to be in permanent session to be ready to properly respond to any situations which may arise and which are supported by the enemies of democracy and of the people in general.

The Broad Front for the Defense of Democracy in the University is chaired by the current president of the FUUD [United University Students Democratic Front] CURN affiliate, Santos Paguada.

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CSO: 3010/141

BRIEFS

COMMISSIONER TO UK--Kingston, 17 Oct (CANA)--The foreign ministry announced the appointment of Bank of Jamaica Governor Herbert Walker, as the island's high commissioner to London. [Excerpt] [FL222018 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 18 Oct 81 p 3]

CS0: 3025/1003

PRESIDENT COMMENTS ON INCIDENT WITH GUYANA

FL121752 Bridgetown CANA in English 1650 GMT 11 Oct 81

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 11 Oct (CANA)-- Suriname's president, Dr Henk Chin A Sen, has deemed "unfortunate" an incident which resulted in the closure of the Guyana booth at a trade fair here. The Guyana Embassy in Paramaribo decided to close the booth after the Suriname Government had protested about the display of a map listing part of Suriname as Guyana territory.

President Chin A Sen, in a radio comment, said the issue of the boundary dispute between the two countries was not alive at the moment. "No one was concerned about it at the moment, but the Guyana Governments displaying of the map provoked the people of Suriname and the government had no alternative but to ask for its removal," he said.

"It is a rather unfortunate incident," the president declared. His office issued a statement on the matter. It said: "Visitors to the Suriname fair expressed indignation over the map placed in the Guyana stand, in which the dispute area is shown as Guyana territory."

It added: "This behaviour on the part of the Guyana Government is regrettable and is seen by the Suriname Government as provocative. "Regrettable as the incident is," the statement continued, "the government could not allow the map to be exhibited in the face of protest by the people of Suriname."

The incident drew a critical comment from the weekend mirror newspaper here, the paper declared: "The Guyana authorities had the nerve to demonstrate a map of Guyana in which the Suriname territory, now illegally occupied by farmer-soldiers (national service) was shown as Guyana territory."

"It is understandable that the whole nation protested this far-reaching insult and demanded from the Suriname Government that something be done to stop this insult to the nation, which is giving not only friendship, but also a new home to thousands of Guyanese."

In another section of the paper reference was made to a cultural show staged by Guyana on 28 September. The paper said the show "did more for better relations between the two countries than the lot of diplomatic regmarole by Guyana during the last few months."

CSO: 3025/1003

BRIEFS

CUBA INTERESTED IN INCREASED TRADE--Paramaribo, Suriname, 20 Oct (CANA)--Cuba is interested in buying rice from Suriname and preliminary discussions on the matter have already taken place between the two sides, Cuba's commercial attache to the Caribbean, Senor Manuel Sanchez, has disclosed here. Senor Sanchez, who was here to attend the recently held Suriname trade fair, said this was mainly in an effort to increase reciprocal trade between the two countries. He added however that the question of prices, supplies and a system of payments still had to be worked out. The Cuban official told newsmen that these discussions would be resumed at a future date, adding that as long as the prices were good and supplies were guaranteed, his country would be willing to start business with Suriname. Cuba already purchases railway sleepers from Suriname and Senor Sanchez said the purchase of rice would be another way for Cuba to demonstrate its goodwill towards the former Dutch colony. Speaking on his countrys participation in the trade fair, he said it was a further effort to strengthen existing ties between the two countries. [Excerpt] [FL202256 Bridgetown CANA in English 2126 GMT 20 Oct 81]

CSO: 3025/1003

ONR PREPARES FOR ELECTION; 16 CANDIDATES PRESENTED

Initial Line-Up

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 21 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] The candidates:

Diego Martin Central--Karl Hudson Phillips, 49, Barrister-at-Law; Political Leader.

Oropouche--Surujrattan Rambachan, 32, U.W.I. Lecturer; Deputy Political Leader.

Diego Martin East--Dr Hugh Spicer, 48, Medical Practitioner.

Deigo Martin West--Theodore R. Guerra, 49, Barrister-at-Law.

Port of Spain South--Clive Pantin, 48, Teacher.

St Ann's West--Lloyd Elcock, 42, Insurance specialist.

Barataria--Dr Ramesh Deosaran, University Lecturer.

St Joseph--Mervyn Assam, Company director.

Tunapuna--Rhona Baptiste, Publisher.

Arima--Richard Saunders, Electrical Engineer.

Chaguanas--Sudesh Shivarattan, 41, Barrister-at-Law.

Couva North--Abdool Wahab, 35, Public Servant.

Tabaquite--Premchand Dass, 48, Foreign service officer.

Point Fortin--Dr Randolph Peters, 37, Teacher.

Fyzabad--Ben Brown, 46, Oilworker.

Pointe-a-Pierre--Oswald Hemley, 42, Teacher.

Hudson-Phillips Address

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 21 Sep 81 pp 1,3

[Article by Clevon Raphael: "Peaceful Change Now or Never Says Karl"]

[Text] It is now or never for peaceful change in Trinidad and Tobago.

This was the rallying call sounded by the Political Leader of the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR), Mr Karl Hudson-Phillips, during a lengthy address at Woodford Square, Port of Spain, yesterday afternoon.

The ONR presented some of its candidates to contest the upcoming general elections.

Mr Hudson-Phillips, who renamed the largest public square in the city "Reconstruction Square," said among other things that an ONR administration would reconstruct the public service, devise rules for the participation of all public servants in active politics and overhaul the present income taxation structure.

Corruption

He told the large crowd that the last 25 years had seen a deepening of the process of corruption--in its broad and narrow sense--corruption in terms of dishonesty, lack of self-respect, indiscipline and selfishness.

Mr Hudson-Phillips, who was Attorney General in the ruling People's National Movement, emphasised:

"It is left to the ONR in 1981 to demonstrate to Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean and the world at large, that the face of Trinidad and Tobago does not have to be corrupt, does not have to be dishonest, does not have to be backward looking.

"To the vast majority of Trinidadians and Tobagonians it is now or never.

If we do not grasp this opportunity to change democratically, we fear how the change will come. Already there are lots of you who are saying that if it does not change, you will leave Trinidad and Tobago for good."

He interpreted this to mean that there were many people poised on the decision for change or mass exodus from their native country.

Mr Hudson-Phillips noted that "as we look around us in Trinidad and Tobago in 1981," the expressions of hopelessness pervaded the air.

Trick Slogans

The corrupting trick slogans were being brought out of the cupboards, the slogans showed the disappointment and rising anger or defeat (it depended which way you looked at it), of the people.

He elaborated:

"'Count your blessings'; 'Money is no problem'; 'What is wrong must be put right'; 'Telco poops'; 'you are a nation of complainers'; 'we like it so'; 'it is a way of life.'

"These expressions reflect dishonesty, despair and hopelessness.

"Most of all they reflect the arrogance and contempt which the present ruling party has for the people of Trinidad and Tobago. They are saying, 'you are fools, that is why you will vote for the ruling party again.'

"It reflects the violence which has been done to people's minds to the extent that a lot of us no longer feel the wrongs and injustice which are being done to us every day."

The ONR would achieve its goal of creating an industrialised society by using a particular structure of social and economic organisation the party called a "mixed economy."

So far, the system as it now operated, according to Mr Hudson-Phillips, had failed to distribute the wealth of the national equally among the citizens.

Real poverty was even more evident in Trinidad and Tobago today than it was 25 years ago, and an ONR administration would have to address the question of special programmes for the relief of poverty in this country.

A return of national planning was necessary to promote social justice, utilisation of our abundant resources, reduction of concentrations of economic power and the encouragement of public participation in the development process.

Since 1973, he recalled, Government abandoned national planning in favour "of some nebulous term called development strategies."

He explained: "Money was no problem so there was no need to plan. Any sensible government would have realised that the exact opposite is the case. When a country like Trinidad and Tobago is blessed with a sudden windfall, the necessity for national planning is even greater.

"The smallest child will tell you, 'A fool and his money are soon parted.' This is what the present government has virtually done to Trinidad and Tobago.

"With the abandonment of national planning, each Ministry became a separate economic kingdom."

Criticising the concept of a Corporation Sole, Mr Hudson-Phillips argued that there has been no clear balancing of political and economic considerations against each other, as a result a form of political opportunism had appeared.

He added:

"Immediate political and personal benefits have been given priority over social and economic goals. One suspects that several large projects were entered into

without planning on the purely personal reason of how much the particular person in charge of the project would get by way of illegal payments, bribes and from sludge funds.

"The result is that we have now been saddled with questionable projects which we will have to pay for whether or not they serve any useful social purpose.

In the absence of national planning, he continued, there was no understanding of how our national economy functioned.

Mr Hudson-Phillips said;

"There has been no concern or forethought that the rapid industrialisation of Point Lisas has seen an increase in suicides in that part of the country, greater incidents of prostitution at levels higher than the peak days of the US base construction during the last war."

The Central bank has made inflation the number one enemy of the country and has adopted a strict monetarist solution--yet, year after year the Minister of Finance ignores this topic in his Budget presentations.

Candidates' Background

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 21 Sep 81 pp 1, 6

[Article by Norris Solomon: "Rest of the Team 'In a Few Days'"]

[Text] The Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) presented 16 of its candidates for the forthcoming General elections in Woodford Square yesterday.

Rest of the slate with which the party hopes to form the next Government will be announced in "a few days," according to the party's organiser, Mr Ferdi Ferreira.

He told the large cheering Woodford Square crowd that it was the first part of the team describing it as the front line.

Earlier, he told the party convention at Chaguaramas that political strategy demanded that "we leave some of our options open; we must be careful."

The ONR is the first of the political parties to formally announce its candidates.

Yesterday's announcement of the 16 party candidates followed a morning convention and a motorcade from Chaguaramas to the square.

Mr Karl Hudson-Phillips, the Political Leader, leader of the team is contesting the Diego Martin Central seat and is now returning to face the polls.

He contested in 1971 on the ticket of the ruling People's National Movement but did not fight in 1976.

Surprise candidate yesterday was Dr Ramesh Deosaran, university lecturer, named to fight the Barataria seat.

Dr Deosaran appeared on the ONR platform in April last year when the party was launched, but since then stated that he was not a member of the ONR but had been invited to chair that meeting.

The party's Deputy Political Leader, Mr Surujrattan Rambachan, a 32-year-old UWI lecturer, will be contesting the Oropouche seat, while Mr Clive Pantin, former Principal of Fatima College, is seeking the Port of Spain South seat, formerly held by the late Prime Minister, Dr Eric Williams.

Dr Deosaran's candidature is expected to provide an interesting fight in Barataria where the incumbent is Minister of Health and Environment, Rep Kamaluddin Mohammed, who is expected to contest again on the PNM ticket.

One woman is among the 16 named-Rhona Baptiste, a publisher and former teacher at St. Joseph's Convent in Port of Spain.

Mrs Baptiste is also an executive member of the Housewives Association of Trinidad and Tobago and a newspaper columnist.

Dr Huge Spicer is slated for Diego Martin East seat, and Barrister-at-law Theodore Guerra will contest in Diego Martin West.

An insurance specialist, Lloyd Elcock who is also a Barrister-at-law, is the ONR candidate for the St. Ann's West constituency where Prime Minister George Chambers is expected to fight for the PNM.

Named to contest Couva North...the seat currently held by Opposition Leader Basdeo Panday, is a public servant, Mr Abdool Wahab.

Former Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers Association President, Mr Mervyn Assam, will be seeking honours in St Joseph.

The Political Leader, Mr Hudson Phillips told the Woodford Square crowd that the candidates had been through a rigorous screening process.

"Searching enquiries have been made of them to determine their qualities as good citizens and of honesty, integrity and ability," he said.

Mr Hudson-Phillips said Trinidad and Tobago was crying out for people of their calibre to come forward and serve. "Already the example of those who have made public their intentions before today has given large sections of the population that faith and hope and encouragement which we so desperately need," he added.

The candidates were presented by Mr Ferreira.

Eldest of the candidates are Mr Hudson-Phillips and Mr Guerra, both 49, while the youngest is Mr Saunders, 28.

Three of them are 48 years old overall, 11 of the candidate are in their forties.

In Chaguanas, the candidate is Sudesh Shivarattan, Barrister-at-law, while in Tabaguite a foreign service officer, Premchand Dass, will contest.

Five of the candidates have been trained as Barristers-at-law, three of them full time practitioners.

Thousands packed Woodford Square for the announcements yesterday and flag-waving and cheers greeted the announcement of the candidates.

As the announcement of Mr Pantin's candidature was made he was lifted into the bandstand by supporters.

Dr Deosaran and Mr Pantin received the loudest cheers from the mammoth crowd.

Announcement of the candidates was made against a background of the recorded calypso by King Austin, "Progress."

Describing the 16 candidates as the first part of the team, Mr Ferreira said that it was political strategy.

"The enemy is wounded and desperate, we must be careful with our timing." He said adding that in the next few days they would be presenting the rest of the team.

Mr Pantin took an oath on behalf of the candidates to uphold the constitution, the rule of law, the constitution of the ONR, and to adhere to its principles.

He pledged too, to serve with integrity, without favour, not to discriminate against anyone.

Party sources noted that while the party would be contesting all the seats in Trinidad it was not certain yet whether the ONR would field any candidates in Tobago.

Other areas for which the party still has to name candidates include the two San Fernando seats, Siparia, La Brea, Laventille, Arouca, San Juan, Toco, Manzanilla and Nariva.

CSO: 3025/27

BRIEFS

SUPPORT FOR BELIZE--The Government of Trinidad and Tobago has pledged support to independent Belize in the event of an armed attack, externally organised or supported. The pledge is made in a message on the occasion of Belizean Independence. The declaration reads: "In the spirit of support for Belizean sovereignty and territorial integrity, repeatedly expressed at Commonwealth meetings and in the United Nations, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago declares that in the event of an armed attack against Belize, externally organised or supported, or the threat of such an attack, it would consult with the Government of Bahamas, Barbados, Danada, Guyana, Jamaica and the United Kingdom to consider what measures should be taken in relation to such an attack." [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 21 Sep 81 p 5]

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